

The Mining Journal

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

No. 780.—VOL. XX.]

London, Saturday, August 3, 1850.

[PRICE 6D.

SHROPSHIRE.

MR. THOMAS EDWARDS has been honoured with instructions to SELL, BY AUCTION, at the Fox Inn, SHREWSBURY, about the end of September next, an important FREEHOLD ESTATE, in the parishes of CHIRSBURY and HYSSINGTON, in the county of Salop, comprising about 600 acres, the property of the Rev. J. C. H. Stokes. Also, the MANORS of MIDDLETON and MUCKLEWICK, in the said parishes, which are several valuable VEINS of LEAD ORE.

Further particulars will appear.

Lithographic plans and printed particulars are in preparation, and may be shortly had, with further information, on application to Messrs. Mickelburgh and Son, surveyors and land agents, Montgomery; Mr. Norton, solicitor, Shrewsbury; or to Mr. Edwards, the auctioneer.

BANWEN IRON COMPANY.—TO BE PEREMPTORILY SOLD, pursuant to an Order made in the matter of the Joint-Stock Companies' Winding-up Acts, 1848 and 1849, and of the Banwen Iron Company, with the approbation of Richard Torin Kindersley, Esq., the Master of the High Court of Chancery, charged with the winding-up of the said company, at the Mackworth Arms Inn, in the town of SWANSEA, in the county of Glamorgan, on Thursday, the 22nd day of August, 1850, at two o'clock in the afternoon, the MESSUAGES, FARMS, LANDS, TENEMENTS, HEREDITAMENTS, called, or known, by the name of PANTYDRAINER, or BANWEN FARM, TEYRBACH YURSYNEN FARM, and YNESDOULID, otherwise YNSTOMLYN, FARM, containing 573 acres, or thereabouts, with the MINES and SEAMS of COAL, CULM, and IRONSTONE, and IRON MINE, MINERALS, FIRE CLAY, QUARRIES, ROCKS, and STONES, in, upon, or under, the said FARMS and PREMISES hitherto used by the BANWEN IRON COMPANY, and also the WORKS and PLANT of and belonging to the said Company.

The ESTATE is situate in the parish of CADOXON Juxta NEATH, in the county of GLAMORGAN, 13 miles from the town of Neath, and 16½ from the port of Swansea. The Swansea Canal is within 3 miles of the property, and is worked by a public tramway. The South Wales and Vale of Neath Railways are within a short distance of the estate. The MINE is very rich in IRON ORE, and the LAND abounds with the finest ANTHRACITE COAL, and which is found at the mouth of the pit.

The WORKS are capable of working and turning out weekly 90 tons of pig-iron. Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained gratis at the said Master's office, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London, or of Mr. Adron, of No. 10, Coleman-street, in the city of London, the official manager of the said Company; or of Messrs. Bristol and Tarrant, solicitors, 2, Bond-court, Walbrook, in the city of London, and Greenwich, in the county of Kent; and at the Lamb and Flag Inn, Vale of Neath; and at the principal inns in Bristol, the towns of Swansea, Neath, Glamorgan, and Carmarthen.

The estate and works may be viewed any day between the hours of Ten in the morning and Five in the afternoon.—Dated 18th of July, 1850.

BRISTOW & TARRANT, 2, Bond-court, Walbrook, London, solicitors to Henry Adron, the Official Manager.

EAST OF SCOTLAND MALLEABLE IRON COMPANY.—The Directors have been authorised to RECEIVE OFFERS for the PURCHASE, or LEASE, of the MALLEABLE IRON WORKS at DUNFERMLINE—comprising a STEAM-ENGINE, of 80-horse power, working the machinery, consisting of FORGE and 2 PUDDLE BAR TRAINS, of 16 inches diameter, HAMMER and PATENT SHINGLING MACHINE; also a 16-inch MERCHANT BAR or RAIL MILL, a 12-inch MILL, for ordinary sized merchant bars, and an 8-inch GUIDE MILL, 13 PUDDLING FURNACES, and 6 MILL FURNACES—the whole capable of producing 120 tons of bar-iron weekly.

A REFINERY STEAM-ENGINE, of 45-horse power, with blowing apparatus, complete and capable of working and turning out weekly 90 tons of pig-iron.

A complete SET of WORKSHOPS, containing a 20-horse power STEAM-ENGINE, driving a powerful roll-turning lathe, and blowing apparatus for smelters' fires.

A PUMPING and CLAY MILL STEAM-ENGINE, of 16-horse power, used for the manufacture of fire-brick, and pumping water for supply of engines.

Also, in course of erection, a STEAM-ENGINE, of 80-horse power, intended to drive the mills apart from the forges, having strong cast-iron framing laid down, and machinery suitable on the premises, which could be brought into active operation in a short period.

Together with the necessary TOOLS, LOOSE MACHINERY and STOCKS, of different kinds.

Offers will also be received for the PURCHASE of the ESTATE of TRANSTY, consisting of about 107 imperial acres, with elegant MANSION-HOUSE and PLEASURE GROUNDS, situated about half a mile to the east of the town of Dunfermline.

Applications may be made to Mr. James Ingles, Chairman of the Company; or to Johnstone, Russell, and Craig, writers, Dunfermline.—Dunfermline, March 15, 1850.

CORNWALL.

TO MINING SPECULATOR AND CAPITALISTS.—TO BE SOLD, BY TENDER, NINETEEN-SIX (128th) PARTS, OR SHARES, of and in all that most promising mining adventure called OLD VIRGIN, situate near the sixth milestone on the turnpike-road from Truro to Mitchell, and on the eastern side of the said road, and adjoining on the west, to the Great East Wheal Rose Mine, the adventures in which have gained, in a few years, more than £200,000, and 1-128th part thereof is now worth £500. The under stratum in Old Virgin Mine is of the like kind as that in Great East Wheal Rose Mine, and the several lodes discovered are all sprinkled with silver-lead ore, and the sett is very extensive; the adit level has been driven about 14 fathoms deep—more than 400 fathoms—but no trial made under it, and five shafts have been sunk. A sett, for 21 years, will be granted by the landowner, who will expect for himself and friends 32 shares, and stipulates that no less part or share than 1-128th shall be held by any shareholder, or be recognised in any manner. There is a large and constant stream of water on the premises, and applicable to the purposes of the mine.

Captain John Champion, of Great East Wheal Rose Mine, near Truro, will show the ground; and further particulars may be had by application (post-paid) to Mr. Simmons, solicitor, Princes-street, Truro, by whom tenders will be received.

Truro, July 23, 1850.

PLUMBAGO AND LEAD MINES TO BE LET, IN ARGYLLSHIRE.

1. The PLUMBAGO on the ESTATE of KILLIMORE, in the ISLAND of MULL, lately discovered.

It is seen in masses of various dimensions, some of which are equal to the best Borrowdale.

The stratum of rock in which it appears is of large extent, and the few trials that have been made by blasting under the recommendation of Mr. Rose, mining surveyor, discovered many pieces at each blast, one of which weighed 70 lbs. The facilities of working are most favourable, the mine being upon the shore of Loch Serden, a navigable arm of the sea, and labour is very cheap.

2. The LEAD MINES on the ESTATE of LAUDLE, in MORVEN.

These mines were many years ago worked to some extent, yet very imperfectly—no efficient works having been put down. They have lately been examined by Mr. Rose, who reports the veins to be very strong; and to show great capabilities even from surface exposure, and from their position to be very easily worked in respect of drainage. They are situated a few miles from Loch Sunart, a navigable arm of the sea, and within half a mile of which there is an appearance of ore not yet proved. They are within 10 miles of the Strontian Mines, with which a company might work them in conjunction.

BOTH ESTATES in which these MINERALS appear are FOR SALE.

For further particulars apply to Mr. C. M. Barstow, accountant, Edinburgh, trustee; or to Mr. Rose, mining surveyor, Drummond-street,—with both of whom specimens of the plumbago and of the lead ore may be seen, as also Mr. Rose's report.

Edinburgh, August 2, 1850.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY OF SILVER LEAD MINES, near BRISTOL.—The attention of persons interested in MINING PROPERTY is particularly directed to these valuable SILVER-LEAD MINES, recently discovered, and proved at considerable expense. It is proposed to FORM A COMPANY TO WORK these MINES, to be called the ITCHINGHAM HILL SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY, to be conducted on the Cost-book Principle, which, by Act of Parliament, exempts shareholders from any liability beyond the amount subscribed on their shares.

The sett, or grant, comprises about 60 acres, and is held direct from the Lord of the Manor, at 1-20th dues, or 5 per cent. on the produce, for a period of 21 years, from June, 1850. The situation is highly advantageous, being only 10 miles from Bristol, for the Wickwar Station, on the Birmingham and Bristol Railway, and within 6 of the River Severn. Several very valuable lodes have been discovered, three of which have been explored to some extent, showing throughout indications of a highly metalliferous vein, which the reports will fully explain, and samples seen at the Company's offices.

From the peculiar situation of the lodes, and the natural character of the district, it is considered that expensive machinery will be unnecessary.

A considerable sum of money has been expended on the only required *speculation*—lay, the lead being actually discovered. Gossan, fluor-spar, sulphur of barytes, and other indications of there being a largely productive mine, have been found, fully assuring the shareholders in anticipating a return on the capital invested, equal to the cost of the valuable mine now working.

The mine is to be divided into 3072 shares; 2272 of these will be issued to the public, on which £3 per share is to be paid on signing the Cost-book; this sum the proprietors are fully assured will carry on the works effectually.

Various assays have been made, and the ore is found to be exceedingly rich in silver; one by Mr. Clements, of the Pantler Lead-Works, Bristol, produced 55 per cent. of lead, and 71 ozs. 1 dwt. of silver to the ton of ore, and valued by him at £19 10s. per ton, as produced at the mouth of the mine; another by Mr. Johnson, of 75, Hatton-garden, London, produced 12 cwt. of lead and 68 ozs. of silver to the ton. The price of lead to us is fully assured averages about £1 per ton.

Applications for shares are to be made to Mr. S. J. Green, at the offices of the Company, No. 9, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, London, where specimens of the ore may be seen; and to Mr. Wray, Alveston, near Bristol, with whom the cost-book will lie for signature, for the convenience of country shareholders.

MINING ALMANACK for 1850.—The SECOND VOLUME of this publication is now ready, with Original Articles and Statistical Matter up to the latest period.

London: Published at the Office of the *Mining Journal*, 26, Fleet street.

MR. JAMES CROFTS, of No. 4, KING-STREET, CHEAPSIDE, is encouraged to renew his recommendations to CAPITALISTS to turn their attention from Railways to MINES, as affording, after careful investigation of the merits of any undertaking presented to their notice, a SAFE MEDIUM for SPECULATIVE INVESTMENT.

Mr. CROFTS can procure SHARES in all the MINES of repute in the TAVISTOCK District, and has FOR SALE specially—Wheat Langford, Wheat Treacoli, West Providence, Wellington, Esgar Llue, Cwm Erfin, Llywymaen, and in all the dividend mines; also Lamherne Wheat Maria (10 shares), Wheat Penny, Wheat Vincent, and Wheat Sarah; the latter mine deserves particular attention at this moment, as the shares can be had, by an early application, very much under their real value.

Mr. CROFTS is NOT A DEALER in SHARES for his own account, but acts exclusively for principals, and solicits communications from the country.—Dated August 3, 1850.

NICKEL ORE—SALE BY TENDER.—A QUANTITY of about 83 cwt. NICKEL ORE, lying at the Imperial Silver Mine, at JOACHIMSTHAL, in BOHEMIA, and containing about 40-6 to 42-2 per cent. Nickel, and about 1-3 to 4-5 per cent. Cobalt, is TO BE SOLD to the highest bidder. Parties desirous of tendering for the same are required to send in their tenders to the office of the Imperial Ministry for Agriculture and Mines, at Vienna, any time before noon, on the 16th of September, 1850.—Full particulars of the conditions under which the sale of the ore will take place, may be obtained of Messrs. AUGUST FABER & CO., merchants, No. 60, Mark-lane, London.

Messrs. AUGUST FABER & CO.,

IRON TRADE.—The Advertiser has been for the last 9 years at the head of a business in the Iron Trade, in London; the proprietors are unavoidably compelled to dissolve the firm, for reasons which will be explained; the business will be given up immediately, and the lease, with fixtures, must soon be sold to the best bidder. The Advertiser has not sufficient means to take up the concern on his own account, he, therefore, wishes to meet with a PARTNER, of business habits, who can command at once not less than £2000, for carrying on the business, which hitherto has been principally devoted to one of the most profitable branches of the iron trade. The concern has been established about 30 years, and has an excellent connection, both in the home and foreign markets. A Gentleman already acquainted with the Iron Trade, and who would take some active part in the management, will be preferred. The most respectable references will be given and required.—Address (by letter) "A. M.", at the office of the *Mining Journal*, 26, Fleet-street, London.

MONEY.—TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS, in one sum, or in divided amounts, are ready to be ADVANCED on approved MORTGAGES or PURCHASES in England. If on Mortgages, the RATE OF INTEREST will be very low, and a term of years granted, to suit the wish of the borrowers.

A portion of this money belongs to Mr. Coward, who will only negotiate with principals.

Address by letter, JOHN JAMES COWARD, Esq., Lansdowne-crescent, Bath.—Dated August 1, 1850.

JOHN JAMES COWARD, Esq.,

MONEY—INVESTMENT.—WANTED TO BORROW, for the term of eight or ten years, on mortgage, the sum of FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS, or on Debentures of £500 each, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly, with a bonus. The above is for working an extensive and valuable Coalfield, of which the borrower is the sole proprietor.

Particulars may be obtained—address, "Delta," office of the *Mining Journal*, No. 26, Fleet-street, London.

STEAM-ENGINE (by Boulton & Watt) FOR PEREMPTORY SALE.—A PORTABLE 6-horse CONDENSING ENGINE, in cast-iron, with pump for a deep well, all in complete working order.—Also, a strong BOILER, with part of the fittings for boiler. To effect an immediate sale, no reasonable offer will be refused.—To be seen at Messrs. J. and A. Blyth's factory, Limehouse.

WANTED, a SITUATION, as SUB-MANAGER (in the capacity of Accountant) to a MINING COMPANY, by a Gentleman who has had 10 years' experience in connection with a large Coal Mining Company in the north of England. Testimonials from the company, and the usual guarantees will be given.—Address "C. J. T.", office of the *Mining Journal*, 26, Fleet-street, London.

WANTED TO PURCHASE,—10 or 20 Wheal Mary Ann, 2 Trellawys, 4 Condurrows, 59, or a less number, Tremaynes, 10 West Providence, 10 or 20 Trefts, 1 Wheal Comfort, 1 Wheal Seton, 1 South Frances, 10 North Buller, 1 South Tolgus, and 1 Lisbray Mines shares, at fair and reasonable prices.

Apply to THOMAS P. THOMAS, mine agent, 3, George-yard, Lombard-street, London.

MINING PROPERTY.—BUSINESS transacted in every description of MINING PROPERTY, SHARES BOUGHT and SOLD, ADVICE GIVEN to PARTIES as to INVESTMENT, ADVANCES of MONEY MADE ON this DESCRIPTION of PROPERTY, Statistics given on Mines, and the earliest information obtained from the mineral districts.—Apply to DURELL & CO., Mining Sharebrokers, 88, Lombard-street.

MINING PROPERTY.—Mr. HERRON has SHARES in the best DIVIDEND MINES FOR SALE, and which will give to the purchaser 17 to 25 per cent. for the outlay; amongst others are the following:—Levant, Bodallack, Alfred Consols, Wheal Margaret, Tremain, West Providence, Lewis, Great Devon Consols, West Caradon, Holmbush, Callington, Trellaway, Mary Ann, Herodsfoot, South Tamar, East Tamar, and Bedford United—United Mexican, Imperial Brazilian, St. John del Rey, Linares, and Australian Mines.

MINING OFFICES—33, CLEMENTS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET.

MR. EVAN HOPKINS, C.E., F.G.S., CONSULTING MINING ENGINEER, OFFICE, No. 13, AUSTINFRIARS, LONDON.

Mr. HOPKINS may be consulted daily by Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Capitalists, who have invested, or may wish to invest, their capital in MINES or MINERAL PROPERTIES, on all matters connected therewith (Home and Foreign).

* Every description of Mineral Property inspected and reported on, and distant capitalists may receive periodical advice, in the German, French, and Spanish Languages.

N.B.—Managers and Directors of Mines, as well as Mining Captains, will find Mr. Hopkins' offices convenient for reference on all matters connected with mining, as he has all the Maps on the Geology and Mines of the United Kingdom, the majority of which are from his own observations. The emigrants to California and other gold districts are also furnished with instructions on good mines, deposits, and machinery for the same.

N.B.—Messrs. J. S. & Co. have also ONE or TWO MINING SETTS to DISPOSE OF.

MESSRS. BOXALL & CO., MINING SHARE DEALERS,

5, CROSBY HALL CHAMBERS, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

MESSRS. WATSON & ENSOR, MINING AGENTS,

4, TOKENHOUSE-YARD, LOTHBURY, LONDON.

MR. T. A. READWIN, MINING OFFICES,

2, WINCHESTER-BUILDINGS, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

JAMES LANE, MINING SHARE DEALER,

80, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

UNION MINING COMPANY'S OFFICES,

No. 6, AUSTINFRIARS.

G. B. LOADER, Secretary.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINES, RAILWAY SHARES, DEBTURTURES, CONSOLS, FOREIGN STOCKS, AMERICAN, and other PUBLIC SECURITIES, DEALT IN at the CURRENT RATES of the day, for money or time.

LOANS CONTRACTED, and MONEY AGENTS undertaken upon liberal terms.

JAMES S. TRIPP & CO., LOMBARD-STREET CHAMBERS, CLEMENTS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET.

CIOPAPO MINING OFFICE, 22, Austinfriars, July 21, 1850.

Notice is hereby given, that the HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the shareholders in this Company will be HELD at their offices, 22, Austinfriars, on Wednesday, the 14th August next, at One o'clock precisely.—At this meeting one director and one auditor will go out of office by rotation, but, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election.

By order of the Directors, ROBERT CLARK.

EAST BIRCH TOR TIN MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at No. 2, Winchester-buildings, City, on Wednesday, the 7th of August, to take into consideration—

1. The means of meeting the claims outstanding against the Company.

2. The course to be pursued to obtain the payment of sundry debts due to the Company.

3. The examination

REPORT ON THE MINING DISTRICTS.

The report for 1850 of Mr. Seymour Tremerehe, the commissioner appointed under the provisions of 5th and 6th Vic., c. 99, to inquire into the operation of that Act, and into the state of the population in the mining districts, is now before us. It contains a review of the physical, moral, and sanitary state of the population of South and North Staffordshire, Northumberland and Durham, Monmouth, Brecon, and Gloucestershire. As comment upon such a document would be superfluous (it being a detail of facts which have come under the observation of the commissioner), we proceed at once to the most important points in the report.

Commencing with SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE, the writer says—

No part of the mining population of England presents a more serious subject for consideration than that of Staffordshire. On the southern of the two coal-fields of the county, and chiefly in the small basin between Dudley and Wolverhampton, is congregated, in a series of large villages closely adjoining each other, and occupying a tract of about eight miles square, a mass of nearly 300,000 people, employed principally in collieries and iron-stone mines, in the smelting and rolling of iron, and in the manufacture of a great variety of iron articles of every-day use. The population return of 1841 give the following as the population of the several villages adjoining each other, as above-mentioned, in and near the centre of the district:—West Bromwich, 26,191; Wednesbury, 11,625; Tipton, 18,891; Bilston, 20,181; Darlaston, 8,244; Wallsall, 39,743; Wolverhampton and its townships, 49,639 or 174,494. The population of the adjoining town of Dudley, and that connected with the iron and coal works, on the Worcestershire side of the basin, amount to about 50,000 more. The colliers and miners of North Staffordshire are estimated at about 4000. They live partly in distinct mining villages, partly mixed up with the population of the potteries, whose wares they supply, in the large pottery towns and villages of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-upon-Trent, Hanley, Burslem, &c.

Mr. Tremerehe then shows to what extent improvements have been effected within the last 20 years. The present incumbent of Wednesbury states that, only 22 years since, he saw brought to the baiting place of that village seven bulls, three bears, and a badger, besides dogs and cocks for fighting. His own indefatigable exertions, strengthened by the aid of the law, enabled him in a few years nearly to put an end to these practices. A remnant of the spirit, however, still remains. Dogs are bred for fighting; and fights are got up to take place in the night some miles off, in places known only to the parties concerned. Sensuality, extravagance, and drunkenness, still exist to a frightful degree; and a wild spirit of insubordination often breaks out.

The sanitary arrangements are very defective—

There seems to be every motive to recommend the introduction of the Sanitary Act into these large overgrown village towns, where the enlightened guidance and useful control of a general system is greatly wanted. The large town of Wednesbury, with its population of probably 14,000, has taken the lead in this, and has petitioned the Commissioners of the Board of Health for that purpose. The applicants were, unhappily, able to prove a rate of mortality during the last 10 years, much above the average required by the Act. They suffered greatly during the recent infliction of the cholera. I visited, with the superintending surgeon, and an inhabitant of the town, several of the narrow and close courts, small squares, and unpaved streets, and the interior of many of the houses in them where the cholera had chiefly raged. Many of these places were built by speculators having very small means; others, however, and some of the worst, belonged to comparatively wealthy owners; and notwithstanding all that had been done during the prevalence of the epidemic to take off the refuse to make these places a little less noxious, their aspect was deplorable, and the amount of human suffering that must have been endured by those affected by the disease, and those attending upon them, can scarcely be understood, except by any one who has seen the localities in which these melancholy scenes occurred. The warning of 1832, when this district was similarly visited, had no permanent influence upon that capidity which seeks its immediate gain without any heed to the natural feelings, wants, or Christian claims of others. The same entire disregard of the ordinary means of drainage, decency, or cleanliness, had been perpetuated, and affords a stringent argument for authoritative interference. It is plain that where property is much divided, as in this district, and where there is a constant demand for small houses, every sort of neglect, irregularity, and want of system, will prevail in the arrangements for common decency, health, and comfort; in which the interests of the whole population, and not the inhabitants of those small houses only, are affected. Bilston also, the central and largest village town of the district, and which suffered this year, as in 1832, a heavier infliction of the epidemic than I believe, almost, any place in the kingdom, has warmly taken up this question, and is considering the most ready and practicable mode of placing themselves under the operation of the Act. Wolverhampton and its townships have also been inspected and reported on at the instance of the commissioners. It is satisfactory, therefore, that before long a large portion of the district will be under due surveillance and control in these matters, and it is much to be desired that the other large centres of population in the same valley should speedily have the same advantage. The want of a proper supply of good water is also much felt in many parts of the district. The ordinary supply from springs is interfered with by the mines, and the population is too large to be properly provided for, except through the medium of regular waterworks. It is, I understand, in contemplation to extend the operations of the companies at Dudley and Wolverhampton, but not so far as to embrace, as would be desirable, the greater portion of the valley. A comprehensive plan for the supply of all the pottery towns of North Staffordshire with water has, I believe, been lately very nearly completed.

With respect to the truck system, the report says—

The difficult question of "truck" was urged on my notice by several of the leading proprietors of the iron-works whose men are scrupulously paid in money. Such masters naturally feel exceedingly sure that as many of their competitors in trade procure for themselves what is considered an unfair advantage, by violating the law against the payment of wages in goods. In times of depressed trade this advantage, which is claimed at upwards of 7 per cent., is often sufficient to give the master paying in truck the command of the market. Several proprietors who refused to violate the law in this respect informed me that they had been offered by large dealers 7 per cent. upon the value of all the goods that might be supplied to them if they would adopt the system of truck, and allow them to sell at shop at their works. In addition to this is the further considerable advantage that these dealers offer to accept bills at five months' date in payment of any amount of goods so disposed of. Many of those gentlemen who had hitherto resisted these temptations, and honourably and conscientiously conformed to the law, assented to me that they were apprehensive of being driven in their own defence to follow an example which they cannot but condemn. There are many and various ways of evading the law, but one of the best known and most commented on in the district is that adopted at the large iron-works of Messrs. Lloyd and Co., Wednesbury. Mr. Lloyd, who is a member of the Society of Friends, at first readily and frankly explained his mode of proceeding to me. His settlements with the men are fortnightly. If in the interval a workman wants goods or money, he comes to the office and writes a cheque (a specimen of which was given to me) on the Birmingham Banking Company, payable to bearer. These cheques are written for every variety of small sums, generally under £1, usually perhaps from 2s. 6d. to 10s. It is understood that the cheque is never to be presented at the Birmingham Bank, which is 10 miles off, but to be taken to the shop in connection with the works. There the workman may obtain money at the rate of 4s. in £1, and the rest he may receive in goods. If, for instance, a man has occasion for 2s. in money in the course of the week, he must go to the office and draw a cheque for 10s. Mr. Lloyd did not think that, on an average, more than 6s. in £1 of the entire wages paid by him was taken in goods. He stated that the money balances paid by him had amounted to 1000/- per week, and that for the then current fortnight a sum of 1500/- had just been placed on his table. Many families, however, doubtless received in goods a much larger proportion, probably not less than two-thirds of their earnings.

The following observations, from a principal mining engineer, will give a good idea of the state of intelligence among the superior working men:—

There are at a rough estimate about 60 mine agents in this coal-field (South Staffordshire). They have the supervision of all the coal and ironstone pits; they lay them out for work and ventilation; they are expected to understand all the details of the machinery belonging to the pits, both for pumping and drawing, where shafts are to be sunk, &c. It is upon their judgment that outfalls are incurred often of many thousands pounds. The greater number of these mine agents have been working men within the last 12 or 14 years. I believe that many of them cannot write—I know, I think, as many as 14 or 15 who are unable to do so, and certainly some of these are unable to read, or were so only a short time ago. I should think that out of the 60 there may be 25 who are educated men; the rest, say about 20, are in a sort of intermediate state as regards intelligence.

In considering the state of North Staffordshire, Mr. Tremerehe states that the district affords two or three very favourable examples of good management, and its excellent results upon the moral conduct and happiness of the people; but at most of the few other coal or iron-works in North Staffordshire, the managers, or proprietors, informed him that they had much reason to complain of the drunken habits, ignorance, and insubordination of the men, though they were disposed to believe that they could recognise some improvement in progress. There is, undoubtedly, everywhere throughout the mining districts a strong conviction of the great loss incurred by the capitalist from that state of the labouring population. There is no proprietor placed in that situation who does not admit and complain that, by being limited in his operations by the restrictions the men place on their labour, or by their unsteadiness and indisposition, he is obliged to employ from one-third to one-sixth more fixed capital, to the great detriment of his trade, and to the great injury of the public. He is obliged to keep more pits open—consequently, more machinery for pumping and draining, more horses, more roadways, more houses, and other sources of expenditure. The vast amount of capital thus needlessly sacrificed in the iron and coal trade of the kingdom may be imagined, when it is considered that the total quantity of coals raised annually in this country was, according to the current estimate given by Mr. R. C. Taylor (*Statistics of Coal*, p. xviii.), for the year 1845 and 1846, 31,500,000 tons, of the value, at the place of extraction, of 9,100,000. As the districts where the largest portion of this capital is employed—Staffordshire, South Wales, and Lanarkshire, producing together about 1,700,000 out of the 2,000,000 tons of iron, the whole estimated make of the kingdom—are those where this state of things most prevails, it is easy to see that many millions of the national wealth are needlessly locked up in consequence of the erroneous views of their own interest—the indolence, or the sensual habits, of a large portion of the mining population; and this source of loss to individual proprietors is the more glaring, from the contrast sometimes afforded by neighbouring works, as in the cases above described, where by just, firm, and enlightened management, the labouring population have become moral, sober, industrious, and intelligent, doing their duty to themselves, their children, and their master; and, while by their honest and steady industry they have surrounded them-

selves with every comfort that persons in their situation could desire, they have added to their master's means to employ more labour, and, consequently, promoted their own prosperity as well as his.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.—The state of these districts is still very unsettled, and several strikes have taken place within the past year at some of the collieries; the policy of the delegates has been to get up a strike at one colliery at a time, in the expectation, that the owners, seeing their trade pass into the hands of their neighbours, would submit to the pitmen's demands.

In this proceeding they have been partially successful: several of the collieries in Northumberland and Durham having, within the last year, given in to their terms, rather than enter upon or prolong a contest which would have entailed a still greater loss, although at most of them, at the time, neither the state of the work, nor the rate of earnings, nor the price of coal in the market, justified the increase. Others, however, have successfully resisted. I found it also to be the general opinion that the state of the market was such that no long period could elapse before a reduction of wages would become necessary throughout the trade, which, however, was anticipated would not be effected without another general strike. Such is the cycle of events between the coalowners of this, nearly the most important coal district in the kingdom, and the 25,000 pitmen (men and boys) in their employ. The 10,000,000 of capital estimated to be engaged in the coal trade of these two counties is thus subjected every four or five years to an enormous tax by the ignorance, jealousy, and crudity of the great majority of the pitmen. Neither is it a trade which, according to all printed statements regarding it, can at all bear such a burden. The great increase of joint-stock companies, formed to work collieries in these counties within the last 20 years, has, together with the competition of other districts, so reduced the price of coal, that it is a master, I believe, of general complaint that the collieries in these two counties do not, on an average, pay 5 per cent. Nor can it be said that the pitmen have too small a portion of the returns in the shape of wages; while the price of coal has gone down in the London market 12s. per ton in the last 20 years; the earnings of the colliers generally are as high as they were at the beginning of that period. Where they are not, it arises from their own voluntary restrictions on their labour, with the object of reducing the quantity of coal in the market, and forcing up the price.

The author says, no circumstances can more fully show the unreasonableness, the caprice, and folly of the pitmen than the following:—

At Lord Durham's collieries this is, however, not the case. Their able manager, Mr. Morton, informs me that at his collieries the men have had 10 days' work per fortnight throughout the last year; and at all except one pit they have been able easily to average 4s. a day by seven hours' work. They restrict themselves to this sum, although they might, Mr. Morton informs me, have earned more. Nothing, I understand, is omitted in the management of these pits that can contribute to their healthiness and safety; the cottages are good, and, as usual in the trade, they have then rent-free, with gardens and coals in addition; yet, during the whole of the past year they have been making constant demands for an increased rate of payment, which would enable them to earn their 4s. a day in five or six weeks, and nearly every pit has been "off work" for some time during the year, in an endeavour to force this concession. Mr. Morton favoured me with the following account of the conduct of the men at one of his pits:—"At one of our most desirable and easily-wrought pits (High Grange, near Durham) the pitmen wrought very quietly and with great regularity all the summer, averaging rather more than 4s. a day in about seven hours. I had been holding them up as an example to all our other men, when they suddenly made a demand for an advance of price, which I was obliged most decidedly to refuse. They struck, and I had a long interview with a deputation on the subject. I endeavoured to reason quietly with them; I praised their former good conduct, and said how much regret I should feel if I were compelled to eject them from their houses. I could make no impression upon them. Just as they left me, one of the leaders told me in a most determined manner that the men would not go to work until they had obtained the advance. I gave them notice to deliver up their houses; they refused, and I had every one ejected. They remained out a whole month. We put some strangers and above-ground men into the pits, some of whom made 5s. a day, but of course they were placed in the most favourable situations in the pit, and could not have gone on at that rate. When the old men had been off work a month, five or six came, and shortly afterwards the whole body offered themselves again at the precise terms they had left off. We took back the great majority, rejecting some whom we suspected as the leaders of the revolt, which I ascended to some half-a-dozen, headed by one of the Hibernian delegates, to whom the pitmen pay about 30s. a week for 'managing' the 'Union fund.' There cannot be in the two counties any collieries managed with greater liberality or a sounder judgment than those under the able gentlemen above-mentioned; yet the conduct of the pitmen, of whom there are perhaps nearly 2000 in their united employ, has been as I have above described. The other strikes which have occurred within the same time, as I am informed, bear so similar a character to the above, that it would not be much more than a repetition of the same circumstances to detail them, only excepting, that at the Consett Iron-Works, to which I shall presently advert. The feature that is somewhat peculiar to the whole is, that they have occurred principally either at collieries that have only existed a few years, or in localities which, until very recently, have not had the benefit of any adequate measures for the enlightenment and guidance of the population.

At the Consett Iron-Works (than which there is no other large work in the kingdom where such a strict and conscientious regard has been shown by their employers to the 15,000 people under them) a strike was little expected, but the report says:—

A general strike, therefore, last autumn, of all the colliers employed at these works was a circumstance calculated to excite no little surprise throughout these two counties. At that time, the delegates of the "Union" had succeeded in their policy of causing strikes at individual collieries; and, emboldened by their success in several instances, they avowed their intention of endeavouring to "win" at the Consett Works also. Accordingly, one of their principal men came and obtained employment at these works, and drew the colliers by degrees into his plan. These were, to set up several grievances; and, under cover of those to reduce the quantity of work, lower the earnings, and make that a pretext for a demand of a higher rate of wages. The design and firmness of the manager (Mr. William Cargill) baffled this policy; and several offenders were sent off to Durham Gaol for deserting their work and for violent assaults—some of which a policeman received very serious injuries. Nevertheless, a general strike of the colliers ensued. The pretences which they put forward were personally and minutely examined into at the time by the Editor of a local paper, who was disposed to the interests of the colliers—the *Durham Chronicle*—and pronounced by him to be altogether unfounded. The "coal measures" which they complained of, were ascertained to be the ordinary coal measures of the trade; the roadways, which had been altered to be wet, were proved not to be so; the "fines" complained of turned out, on inquiry, to have been most light—many of the leaders confessing that they had not been fined more than a few pence since the works began, and others not at all; and the best workmen were earning 30s. by 6½ to 7 hours' work, with house and firecoal free. Mr. Cargill favoured me with a list of the actual earnings of the whole of the colliers in his employ at the time of the strike, which is most accurately drawn up, and conclusive as to the above assertions. As soon as the men began to depart from the agreement under which they were hired, and to restrict their earnings, Mr. Cargill, in addition to sending some of the leaders to prison, immediately, with his usual decision, placed such an additional number of men in the pits, that the union men were unable to earn even the sum they had restricted themselves to. On the general strike of the "union colliers" therewith occurring, Mr. Cargill had no difficulty in filling the pits with miners, common labourers, and others, thrown out of work in consequence of the strike of the colliers.

MONMOUTH, BRECON, AND GLAMORGANSHIRE.—The report states that, although recent convictions for employing females, and the knowledge that evidence on which to found further legal proceedings was being sought for by professional men, to enable them to commence actions, had somewhat checked the practice, the proprietors of many iron-works and mines have failed to exercise their authority in support of the law with that vigilance and determination which might have been expected. Mr. Tremerehe was informed, that at the important works of Blaenavon, Nantyglo, Clydach, Beaufort, Blaina, Coalbrook, and one or two more, females were again at work below ground; but the general excuse is, that they work for the men, that they go into the pits before daylight, and come out after dark, and if the agent and his men went to search, they get immediate notice, and hide themselves.

The employment underground of boys under 10 years of age had also been resumed in several works, by the admission of the managers and their mineral agents. At Blaenavon, the mineral agent very frankly stated that there were at least 30 out of 120 boys underground under the legal age. So large a proportion as one-fourth of the whole is a plain proof that the practice has been resumed without check, and that another generation of colliers and miners is growing up, whose minds are becoming indurated by the same process of early removal from school, and employment in the pits, at the age of ten. A considerable laxity, however, exists in others, of which the above statement is proof, occurring at works where, for many years past, the most liberal provision has been made for education. The payment of wages at public-houses is also, I was informed, again prevalent to a great extent, wherever the managers of the works are not strict in insisting upon the contractors in their employ abstaining from a practice which directly leads to the increase of drunken habits and extravagance. Among the instances of salutary strictness in this respect, I may mention that Mr. Robert Crawshay, resident manager of the extensive Cyfarthfa iron-works, informed me that he had placed the responsibility of preventing this upon his mineral agent, who, by his knowledge of the proceedings of the contractors, is able to prevent it. It nevertheless continues to be a very great and legitimate subject of complaint among the steady and well-disposed workmen at other localities.

The exceeding good management of the Cwm Avon Works, now carried on by the Bank of England, under the superintendence of Mr. J. Bidulph, is so worthy an example, that we give the following as our concluding paragraph:—

Although changes have taken place in the ownership and the management of these companies since that time, the same conscientious regard for what is due to their workpeople continues to be conspicuous at both. The Cwm Avon Company is now carried on behalf of the Bank of England, under the management of Mr. J. Bidulph. Important additions have been made to their schools. Two clergymen have been appointed, one to take the place of the incumbent. Reading-rooms have been formed, accessible to all their workmen. The principal one, near their offices, containing an abundance of well-selected books, papers, and reviews, supplies books, papers, &c., to the others held in the school-rooms at the remoter parts of the valley. To this is also attached a mechanics' institute, and both are shortly to be placed in a large building under the same roof. Useful and attractive lectures are given, and musical performances, the latter chiefly by young men belonging to the works. Evening schools have also been opened for young men and women; the latter zealously superintended by the ladies of the chief persons in the valley. A more systematic attention has been paid to sanitary measures as regards sewage, taking off all refuse, &c.; a penny in the pound is stopped from all wages for this purpose. The company's shop has been given up, and advances in cash are made weekly to every workman, and the balance paid every month. Several good shops were immediately opened by persons from a distance. Excellent accommodation has also been afforded for holding a market, at which there is a daily attendance of persons who bring their goods from Aberavon, Neath, and Swansea, and a full market every Saturday, and the prices of everything were, I was informed, precisely the same as at Swansea, ten miles off. It needs no such example to disprove what is often alleged as an excuse for

a company's shop (and which was so, formerly, here), that it is necessary as a check upon exorbitant prices. Where between 4000 and 5000 people are collected, earning in good times about 10,000/- per month, there can be no fear of a want of sufficient competition for the supply of such a demand. All the other excellent arrangements which I noticed in my report of 1846, are, as it was stated to me, continued; such as, among others, that of not receiving any workman who does not bring a good character (of which this is the only instance, that I am aware of, in the whole of South Wales); the good size and the convenience of the dwellings, where new ones have been built; the restriction upon, and supervision of, public-houses, &c.; the encouragement of gardening and other means of innocent recreation and enjoyment, &c. The consequence of this benevolent and enlightened management is, that I believe no set of workmen give less trouble to their masters; that justice and liberality on the one side are repaid by confidence and respect on the other; that the state of morals, that the manners, habits, and conduct of the workpeople and their families, are creditable to themselves and their employers; and that such an example satisfactorily shows that the development of these great industries—of such national importance in an economical point of view—need not be attended with the moral degradation and physical discomfort of the workpeople, when conducted under a proper sense of Christian duty.

Proceedings of Public Companies.

MEETINGS DURING THE ENSUING WEEK.

MONDAY	Kent Water-Works Company—George and Vulture Tavern, at Twelve.
TUESDAY	Equity and Law Life Assurance Company—offices, at Twelve.
WEDNESDAY	East Birch Tor Mining Company—offices, at One.
THURSDAY	British Rock and Patent Salt Company—offices, at One.
FRIDAY	Cork and Waterford Railway—offices, at Three.
SATURDAY	South-Western Railway—Nine Elms Station, at One.
	New South-Western Steam Navigation Company—offices, at Four.
	SUNDAY

[The meetings of Mining Companies are inserted among the Mining Intelligence.]

CAMERON'S COALBROOK STEAM-COAL AND SWANSEA AND LOUGHOR RAILWAY COMPANY.

The annual meeting of proprietors was held at the offices of the company, Moorgate-street, City, on Monday, the 27th July, for the reception of the report of the directors, and on other business.

E. G. WINTHORPE, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. HOWDOW (the secretary) read the advertisement convening the meeting, and the directors' report, of which the following is the substance:—

The directors have the satisfaction of meeting the shareholders on this the annual meeting, and reporting to them their proceedings during the year ending 30th June last. It will be in the recollection of the shareholders, that at the annual general meeting held on the 31st of July, 1849, the state of the company's affairs was very foully brought under the notice of that meeting, and the directors then submitted to the meeting, that in their judgment the first course to follow

expenses, surveying, &c.....	8,937	12	6
By line to the Port of Llanelli, &c.—Engineering expenses	656	11	7½
Construction to 4th July	383	0	4
By wharf at Swansea, including new walls and gates, and improvements recently effected	3,297	19	2
By office furniture	318	2	2
By cash at banker's, and bills and balances on overdues bills and accounts	380	6	4½
By balance at debit, profit and loss	43,605	9	9
Total	£303,485	17	0

Mr. ELDERTON (the solicitor) said, as they had done him the honour of specially alluding to him in the report, he begged to say that his bill of costs was a work of very great labour, extending over a period of five years, and would have been delivered that morning, had it not been delayed through the private business of one of the directors.

Mr. SMALLBONE (a director) begged he might not be considered as the cause of the delay in producing this bill of costs; it was unfair to make such an accusation.

The CHAIRMAN said he could not, were he to try ever so much, add anything to that report; it was a statement as clear and concise, as regarded the company's affairs, as could possibly be written. As to the solicitor's account, he regretted as much as any one that they had not been produced at this meeting; for a pledge had been given to that effect at the last meeting. (Hear, hear.) By the co-operation of all parties, this company would now succeed. There was the line of railway going on as fast as possible; and, when finished, their coal would be brought to market—in fact, they had already had offers for it to a very large amount. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, by the co-operation of all the shareholders, and of every one connected with the company, their success as a company was certain. Without their co-operation with the directors, it would be impossible to get the coal from the mine, although it be there in abundance. There was a considerable sum of money owing to them by the shareholders, which, if it were only paid, would get them over their difficulties. The directors were willing, instead of having recourse to harsh measures, to afford reasonable time to those who needed it; and to those who did not, he would say, pay your calls immediately, and you will have the consolation of seeing the company go on most satisfactorily. If there were any item in the balance-sheet which needed explanation, he should be happy to give it. In conclusion, he would move that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. GREEN could not call a correct balance-sheet without the solicitor's bill.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you any objection to it, with that exception?—Mr. GREEN: None whatever.

The CHAIRMAN said, the solicitor seemed to throw the blame on a private client. It was a question for the meeting whether he ought to have allowed the affairs of a private client to have interfered with the important business of this company. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. STRELLY said, that when he was appointed their auditor, three years ago, he was equally anxious to have a fair balance-sheet. He had ever since endeavoured to obtain it, and had made frequent applications to the solicitor, but had been previously disappointed; and the last reply he got from Mr. Elderston was, that it should be ready by 10 o'clock on the day of the general meeting. (Hear.) He would now appeal to the meeting whether he had not forfeited his word as a gentleman both towards the company and the auditors.

The CHAIRMAN said, it would require some time to look through these accounts, before the directors could present them to the shareholders.

Mr. GREEN observed, that a distinct promise was given at the last meeting, that they should be ready several days before this meeting. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. STRELLY said, that in the balance-sheet now presented to the meeting, there was not a single thing left out but the solicitor's bill.

Mr. W. W. COOPER, the other auditor, expressed the same opinion.

Some objections were made to the balance-sheet on the part of Mr. Elderston, as not containing all the items, but an explanation from Mr. Cooper, the auditor, made the figures intelligible.

The CHAIRMAN thought, after this, they might conclude that the balance-sheet was correct. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ELDERTON here signified that his account should be delivered during the day, and retired.

Mr. GREEN thought they had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the directors, and with the efforts they had made to carry on the company since the last meeting. He thought, with the chairman, that nothing was now wanting but unanimity amongst the shareholders to make this company highly prosperous. This being his opinion, he would again beg to second the adoption of the report. (Applause.)

Mr. W. W. COOPER would just state, before that was put to the vote, his great satisfaction at the highly favourable contract which had been entered into for the making of the railway. He thought it would be agreeable to the shareholders if Mr. Howden would read the items of that contract.

Mr. HOWDEN read the contract, from which it appeared that only 30 per cent. on the estimate of the work done was to be paid by the company at the termination of each month, and that the other half of the cost of making the railway was to be divided into three instalments, at three, fifteen, and twenty-one months, after the completion of the railway.

Mr. COOPER said, the instalment due to the contractor since the balance-sheet had been prepared had been paid. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the report and balance-sheet for the adoption of the meeting, which were carried unanimously, with the exception of Mr. W. B. J. P. Cameron, who dissented.

Mr. STRELLY asked if Mr. W. Cameron was now a shareholder?—The CHAIRMAN said, after this extraordinary conduct on the part of Mr. W. Cameron, he must say a few words on the subject. After all the delay, trouble, and anxiety the directors had undergone, in bringing the company thus forward, and exhibiting, as they did that day, desire to do everything that might be considered the best for the advancement of the undertaking, was it not a most extraordinary thing for one of the Cameron family to hold up his hand against the company? (Shame.) They all knew the position in which they stood with regard to Mr. Cameron, and that if he opposed it would be sufficient to make their vote of no avail. But it was a subject of congratulation to him (the chairman) on this occasion to be able to bring forward a protest against that gentleman's votes. (Applause.) The protest would explain the reasons, and there was not the slightest doubt, in his mind, that Mr. W. B. I. P. Cameron had no right whatever to vote, because he did not hold legally a single share. He was sure the meeting would agree with him that, when he evaded the signing of the deed for 12,000 shares, he committed a most disgraceful fraud on the company. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HOWDEN then read the protest, which was applauded by the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN moved that the protest be received, and entered on the minutes.—Mr. STRELLY seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously, save the dissent of Mr. Cameron.

At this period of the meeting several coarse epithets were applied to Mr. Cameron by some of the shareholders, who felt themselves injured by his conduct in relation to this company.

The CHAIRMAN said, they had received notice from other parties, to whom they would have to pay the royalties, and he was happy to say that, in that respect, the company would fall into much better hands. (Applause.)

Mr. SMALLBONE said, it now being questionable whether Mr. Cameron could vote as a shareholder of this company, the shareholders had power to carry what they pleased; and believing that he had no voice in their proceedings, he thought they might look upon all their resolutions as carried unanimously.

Mr. STRELLY: Certainly.

The CHAIRMAN was sorry their board was so small; but they must work the harder for it. He had now to propose the re-election of Capt. Norcott, R.N., John Barham, Esq., and Capt. Earle, R.A., as directors of the company.

Mr. SMALLBONE seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

After the election of the auditors, Mr. Strelly and Mr. Cooper, who were voted 102, 103, each for their services,

Mr. SMALLBONE observed, that there was a deed existing in this matter which would soon be in their custody; they had struggled hard to get it, and if he had not the pleasure to see it that day, he hoped he should see it on the morrow. (Hear, hear.) That deed would show the transactions between the grantor of that deed and the parties who signed that deed; but the result of the dispute would make it better for the company.

After some words from Mr. Hughes and others,

Mr. W. W. COOPER wished every shareholder had but once seen the immense property in their possession. He had learnt not only here, but at Swansea, and from others who knew the property, how valuable it was, and that it only required to be properly worked. (Hear, hear.) A railway was the only thing required, and that was now being constructed as fast as possible.

The assistance of the shareholders was now more than ever necessary to get this object completed, and he hoped they would give a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether. Let them but harmonise with the directors, and they would soon experience much benefit from the abundant resources of their property. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN observed, that the directors would be the first to hold at the hand of friendship to the Camerons; and, if they did not accept it, they must take the consequence. If they only came forward in a honourable way, the directors would assist them in getting out of all their difficulties; for in doing so, they would also assist themselves. (Hear.)

Mr. GREEN then moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors.—Mr. BULL seconded the motion, and only regretted the harmony of their proceedings had been interrupted by any member of the Cameron family. (Hear.)—Mr. CAMERON: It is your own seeking. (Shame.)—The resolution was passed with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN promised that he and the board would devote themselves more zealously than ever to the interest of the company; and he hoped the growing confidence on the part of the shareholders would induce those in arrear to make some effort to complete their engagements, when he had no doubt this would prove one of the most prosperous concerns in the kingdom. (Hear.)—The meeting then separated.

HOLYFORD COPPER MINING ASSOCIATION.

At the general half-yearly meeting of shareholders, held at the offices of the company, Great Winchester-street, on Wednesday, the 31st July, FREDERICK LE MESURIER, Esq., in the chair,

The following report of the directors was read:—

On presenting to the shareholders the accompanying statements of accounts, and the agent's report of workings during the past six months, the directors consider it unnecessary to make any lengthened remarks. It will appear, on reference to the statement of mines' cost and produce, that the half-year's workings have again been attended with loss. In anticipation of this result, the directors some months since considered it advisable, for the purpose of reducing the expenditure, to suspend the working in all parts of the mine (except in the neighbourhood of the engine-shaft) which did not promise to become shortly productive. As regards the present position, and the prospects, it will be observed that the quantity of ore raised in July is nearly equal to that of the two preceding months, and the raising for July will, it is estimated, exceed considerably that of June; and should this quantity be maintained, the losses of the past year will in a few months be regained. From the continuance of an excellent bunch of ore, as mentioned by Capt. Lyle, from the 30 fm. to a 40 fm. level, and back in the engine-shaft and whim-shaft, and the improved character of the 30 fm. level south, and lately the rich course of ore in the end of that level, the directors consider the prospects of the mine much better than at any time during the last two years; and they trust that the ground to be opened in the next six months will prove their anticipations of improvement well founded.

The balance-sheet, from 30th Nov., 1849, to 31st May, 1850, was submitted, when the following report, from Capt. Lyle, was read:—

Holyford Mines, July 26.—I herewith hand you my report for the last six months:—At Holyford, the 10 fm. level south has been driven 4 fms. 8 in.; the 30 fm. level south has been driven 5 fms. 2 ft. 9 in.; the 20 fm. level north has been driven 12 fms. 4 ft. 5 in.; and the 30 fm. level north has been driven 19 fms. 5 ft. 9 in. In these levels the lode has been small, but occasionally producing good stones of ore; the lode in the ends is small. The 30 fm. level south has been driven 15 fms.; the lode more promising, producing good stones of ore; the last 2 fms. we have a very good course of ore, 18 in. wide, solid; the lode in the end is now 4 ft. wide, and will produce 1000 worth of ore per fm. We have a wince sinking under the 20 fm. level (about 9 fms. further south than the 30 fathom end), which is sunk under the level 9 ft., and will produce 200 worth of ore per fm. We have a stope working in the back of this level which will produce about 600 worth of ore per fm. The 20 fm. level, north of the first shaft, has been driven 9 fms. 1 ft. 3 in.; the lode varying from 18 in. to 6 in., with stones of rich ore. The engine-shaft is sunk 9 fms. 3 ft. under the 20 fm. level; the lode in the shaft, has been productive the whole of the distance, and will now produce 300 worth of ore per fm. The whim-shaft is sunk 5 fms. under the 30 fm. level; the lode in this shaft will produce 1700 worth of ore per fm. The pitches are nearly all 100 ft. At Old Forge, the 10 fm. level has been driven 14 fms. 4 ft., and the 20 fm. level 13 fms. 2 ft.; the lode varying in each level from 4 ft. to 1 ft. wide, with some spots of ore. I have much pleasure in stating that the mine is looking much more promising than ever I saw it, and, from appearances, have no doubt but the 40 fm. level will exceed anything we have seen in the mine.

The report of the directors, with the accounts, were received and approved, and the meeting separated.

WELLINGTON MINING COMPANY.

At a meeting of adventurers, held at the offices, George-yard, Lombard-street, on Monday, the 29th July, a statement of accounts was presented, showing—Balance from last account, 37. 1s. 6d.; sales of copper ore, 767L 15s. 5d.; tin stuff, 45L 12s. 6d.—less lord's dues (1st-18th), 45L 8s. 9d.=771L 5s. 8d.—Labour and miscellaneous cost, for March, 263L 5s. 6d.; April, 307L 16s. 7d.; merchants' bills, 111L 11s. 1d.=682L 13s. 2d.: leaving balance, carried to credit of next account, 88L 12s. 6d.

The following report, from Capt. M. White, was read to the meeting:—

July 23.—I hope to commence driving north in the 52 fm. level the latter part of the present week; this is at the bottom of the engine-shaft; this would have taken place before now, but for the breaking of the window of the sinking lift, which has caused some delay. The lode in the 42 fm. level, west of the said shaft, is small, but the ground is fair for driving; this is just what is wanted for reaching the eastern discovery; the lode in the same level, east of Parcally's shaft, is at present split in three parts, and the lode on the north is eight inches wide, worth for copper and tin from 97 to 102 per fm.; the other parts on the south are for the most part spar. The lode in the 32 fm. level, east of said shaft, is 2 ft. wide, principally spar. The ground in the crevices north, at the adit level, is still good for driving. There is no change in the north lode at the adit level; the lode in the adit level, west of new shaft, on engine lode, has been disordered by a cross-course, but is now looking better, and producing good stones of copper ore. The lode in the 10 fm. level, east of this shaft, is about 1 ft. wide, nearly all saving work for copper ore; this level is opening good tribute ground. In driving south of the said shaft in the shallow level, we have intersected two small branches, poor. Our copper sampling this day is as follows: 52, 47, 42, 9=150 tons.

The AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.

The fifth annual meeting of shareholders in this company was held at the Royal Adelaide Hotel, London Bridge, on Monday last, the 29th July.

CHARLES DOWNES, Esq., in the chair.

The meeting was advertised to be held at the offices, in accordance with the requirements of the Deed of Settlement; but to prevent it becoming inconveniently crowded, Mr. Joseph, the secretary, read the notice convening the meeting, and the proprietors in attendance immediately proceeded to the large room of the Adelaide Hotel. The chair having been taken, the Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed, and the following—

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

In presenting to the shareholders the fifth annual report of the Australian Mining Company, the directors at once proceed to state the progress made in the mining operations during the past year. Upon Baker's lode sinking has been carried on in various places below the adit, or 40 fm. level, to the 50—the adit has been driven 40 additional fathoms in length, being now 220 fms. long, with an iron tram-road laid down for nearly the whole distance. The drivings have been continued in the 30 and 40 fm. levels, and various cross-cuts westerly have also been made from the 40 on Baker's adit, to intersect another lode (Anstey's or Hazen's), which was found running parallel with Baker's at a distance of only 3 fms. This lode having been cut rich in places, and driving thence commenced, several valuable pitches were worked, and yielded during the year, in conjunction with Goad's lode on Baker's adit, and a few tons raised from Montacute on tributary, the following quantities of ore:—

por "Harpye"	166	tons of 234 per cent.	£2684 net.
"Dorothy"	131	244 "	2322 "
"Navarino"	186	" 22 "	2273 "
"Himalaya"	180	3 Estimated at 24 per cent, and expected	
"Duke of Wellington"	50	to arrive in August.	

The discovery of such a good course of ore, running apparently parallel with Baker's lode for 25 fms. in length, and which in the summer of 1849 seemed so rich and promising, led Captain Phillips confidently to reckon that this additional ore ground, together with Goad's stope, would realise, without the aid of machinery, at least 200 tons of good ore per month, from 1st January, 1850. Such a supply would have yielded a large profit to the shareholders, but in the month of November one of those disappointments occurred, which all mining is subject to, and against which it is impossible to provide. Goad's stope suddenly became poorer, and the side lode, instead of holding its independent northerly and southerly course, verged into, and at last joined Baker's lode, so as to render all further cross-cutting to the westward useless. Although the immediate supply of ore was thus retarded, there was nothing to deteriorate the permanent character of the mine. The ore previously enumerated had all been raised above, and at the adit level, and above the water level of the country, but the lasting value of the mine (for which the provision of steam-power had been recommended by Captain Phillips) depended upon its development at deeper workings.

By the last advices (see captain's report, March 1, and Major Campbell's letters, dated March 9, 18, and 20) the condition of the mine was more satisfactory than ever, and the accounts therein contained are calculated to dispel the doubts entertained by some, whether the Australian metalliferous deposits would hold down to any great depth. At the 59 fm. level, both in driving it, and in sinking to the 60, a lode of solid yellow ore, of 20 per cent, had been laid open for 3 fms., improving both in quality and quantity, and ready for stopping, so soon as better ventilation had been secured.

Those of the shareholders who have followed the course of operations, will remember that the shaft on Anstey's lode (which was to provide for the deep drainage of the mine) was discontinued some time since, in consequence of the influx of water, and at the time of its discontinuance was yielding good ore of 20 per cent. The large engine, when in full operation, will allow the miners to re-commence raising this ore, will completely drain Masterman's shaft on Baker's lode, and enable both Anstey's and Baker's lodes to be effectively worked.

The month of February of the current year a new lode of very kindly appearance was discovered on the company's property, between the miners' cottages and the mine, which will probably be hereafter worked to great advantage.

Your directors have had their attention strongly drawn to many other promising lodes known to exist in the immediate vicinity of the Tungkillo workings, on which a careful mineral survey is now in progress; but they have always been deeply impressed with the importance of bringing into profitable operation one good mine before they sanction any experimental expenditure. After the engine has been fairly started, a comprehensive view will be taken of the inducements held out by the old and new workings, and the proper course arranged with regard to a more extensive development of the property; as it is obvious, that in proportion as the sources of supply are multiplied, any occasional

attended to; the directors themselves had thought the time had now arrived when a half-yearly meeting would be desirable.

Mr. Horne, the late chairman, who was labouring under a severe attack of influenza, in a very low tone of voice, said he had left a sick bed to attend that meeting, that it should not be said he flinched from meeting them. The only cause of his secession was, that finding he differed with his colleagues, as to the adoption of measures which he thought were most conducive to the company's interests, he thought it time to retire. He did not think the mining operations were carried on with sufficient spirit; he had no doubt, had those operations been carried out with more rapidity, by employing a larger force, the mine would ere this have returned a profit.

Mr. MASTERS, jun., wished to have the correspondence between Mr. Horne and the board of directors read from their minutes; this was done, from which it appeared that Mr. Horne proposed to make a call, as he did not like carrying on a large undertaking with borrowed capital; to this the other directors were opposed; there being £5000 in the bankers' hands, they were at the time in a position to meet all liabilities; they were raising copper ore to an extent which warranted them in anticipating that they could very soon pay off the debt due to the bankers, and commence the establishment of a reserve fund. The consequence was the resignation of Mr. Horne.

A PROPRIETOR made some observations on the amount of the London expenses, and called upon the directors to use their utmost endeavours to curtail them as much as possible; he thought they might be reduced.

Some conversation ensued, which terminated with the CHAIRMAN assuring the meeting the subject would meet their best consideration. The three directors going out of office by rotation were then re-elected; the sum of £300 was voted to the auditors, H. Buckle, G. Burnand, and G. Palmer, jun., Esqrs., who, however, have hitherto declined to accept any remuneration; the directors also had not yet accepted any return for their services. On proceeding to the election for a new director in the room of James Horne, Esq., F.R.S., resigned, there were two candidates—J. Brandeis, Esq., and F. Pegler, Esq., and the show of hands being in favour of the former, Mr. PEGLER said he would not trouble them to go to the poll; he must attribute his defeat to not having had sufficient time at command to take the same steps in canvassing as the other candidates; he returned his sincere thanks to those gentlemen who supported him.

Mr. BRANDEIS returned thanks, and assured the meeting he would, to the best of his ability, watch over and protect their interests, and encourage the strictest economy in every branch of their operations. A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to Mr. Horne for his past services as chairman of the board of directors, who replied; and a similar vote to the chairman and directors.

Mr. HORNE said, he wished, before he left them, to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. J. A. Joseph, their secretary, who, during the time he had been their chairman, had done his duty most zealously and efficiently.—Captain PAGE having seconded this, it was carried unanimously.—The SECRETARY having returned thanks, the meeting separated.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MINING ASSOCIATION—(BURRA BURRA).

The annual general meeting of proprietors was held at the offices of the company, Rundle-street, Adelaide, on Wednesday, the 17th April.

CHARLES BECK, Esq., in the chair.

After the usual preliminaries, the SECRETARY read the following

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

In presenting the shareholders with a statement of the company's affairs for the past six months, the directors have to report an increase in the production of ore, compared with any similar period, amounting to 253 tons—the total quantity raised being 7617 tons, which have been disposed of in the manner particularised in the annexed return of ore. The quality of the ore continues to improve; and about 3000 tons of the last half-year's raising surpassed in richness any ore yet produced in this colony.

There has been a considerable improvement in the copper ore markets in Britain; the price lately obtained for several large cargoes of Burra Burra ore were unusually high. The price of fine copper has lately advanced there about 5¢ per ton, with prospect of a further increase.

The balance-sheet annexed exhibits a summary of the receipts and expenses attending the working of the Burra Burra Mines from the 31st of December, 1847, to the 31st Dec., 1848. The total profit on the ore raised during that year amounts to £37,169.7s. 5d., or £37.5s. 4d. per ton; and the expenses of the association were £63,434.8s. 6d., or £63.1s. 9d. per ton—a result far less satisfactory than that of any previous period of working, inasmuch as the profit has diminished, while the cost of production has increased. This is not, however, to be attributed to any failing off in the produce of the mines, either in quantity or quality, but to the unfortunate mismanagement which they prevailed there in the dressing and preparation of the ores, the high rates of freight the company were then subject to, together with the miserable state of markets, induced by the unsettled state of Europe. By the same account, it will appear that the 9th dividend of 1867, per cent., or 5s. per share, paid on 1st day of Dec. last, and the 10th dividend of 200s. per cent., or 10s. per share, paid on the 6th ult., have been written off the profit of the year now under consideration; and there remains to the credit of profit and loss on the 31st of Dec., 1848, the sum of £2603.12s. 6d. Since this somewhat unpropitious period to the present time, the company's operations have been attended with pre-eminent success, as will be seen by reference to Part III. of the balance-sheet, which shows far more profitable results—such that, after providing for all liabilities, there is a balance in favour of the association of nearly £60,000.; and, deducting from that amount the value of the land, buildings, and other property, necessary for the carrying on of the company's business, and adding the capital stock, there will be a balance of divisible profits of upwards of £64,000. With respect to the items appearing in this account as estimated, it must be remarked that they have been framed upon such data that the directors are confident of their full realisation.

It is not alone in a financial view that the company's affairs appear so satisfactory: for it is admitted by all parties competent to judge, that the Burra Burra Mines never looked so prosperous, or have forth such promise of productiveness, as at the present period. The directors enclose a copy of Capt. Horne's last report on the mine:—

Kingston's North Lode in the 30 fm. Level.—We have extended this level north 20 fms.—15 of which we have driven through a magnificent lode, 8 fm. wide, producing malachite, red oxide, and native copper, varying from 46 to 60 per cent. The pitches in the back of the 30 fm. level, south of Kingston's shaft, are turning out beyond expectation—from one of which the pure broke 150 tons of 44 per cent.

Ayer's Shaft.—We have sunk the shaft to the 40 fm. level, cut a plat, driven a cross-cut 5 fms., and cut the lode, which has given the appearance of being a good one; we have not yet ascertained the size, the ore is of the best quality, from 44 to 50 per cent.

Paxton's Shaft.—We have sunk to the 25 fm. level, cut a plat, and driven levels in various directions, by which we have opened a good deal of tribute ground, which will be worked at a low rate. This part of the mine is looking exceedingly promising.

Graham's Main Shaft.—In the 20 and 30 fm. levels, near this shaft, we have opened a considerable extent of tribute ground, which will turn out a large quantity of low-produce ore. We have recently cut a good lode in the 40 fm. and going from South's to Kingston's shaft; the ores consist of red oxide, blue and green carbonates. The remainder of the pitches not mentioned are turning out very satisfactory. I hope we shall bring as much ore to surface this take as we have done in any previous one. We sampled a heap yesterday which gave 70% per cent. It affords me much pleasure to state that I never saw the mine looking better than it does now.

The engine, working at about half-power, keeps the water in fork. The arrival of a 35-horse engine for crushing ore is now daily looked for; an engine for drawing from the shafts is expected to arrive in about four months, and with the assistance of these the operations will be greatly facilitated. In anticipation of the water increasing as the mine becomes deeper, the directors have ordered 70 fms. of 15-inch pumps, to replace the 11-inch lifts now in work, and they are expected to arrive in September next. The directors have in contemplation the sending for a very powerful pumping-engine, in order that no want of machinery should prevent their prosecuting the works with full vigour. In the return of copper accompanying this, it will be observed, that the receipts from the Patent Copper Company during the past six months amount to 622 tons; that 572 tons have been disposed of in the province; 55 tons have been shipped to England for sale, and 21 tons remain on hand at the port. An addition has been made to the association's mineral property, by the purchase at the Government land sales on the 16th inst., of 10 sections, comprising 796 acres of land, part of the mineral survey known as the Emu Flats. From the examinations already made, the presence of lodes of copper ore of the quality known as the blue and green carbonate, have been discovered on two of the sections, and from the general report the directors have received, they consider the property will be well worth a trial, as soon as they have sufficient labour to spare for that purpose. In consequence of the death of the late Samuel Stockes, jun., the amount from the province of Mr. J. B. Graham, and the uncertainty of the other trustees remaining in the colony, it was recommended by the solicitors that new trustees should be appointed from shareholders who were likely to permanently reside in the province. The directors have, therefore, appointed the following gentleman trustees of the association in place of the late trustees viz.: Messrs. J. Ellis, T. Masters, J. G. Nash, T. B. Penfold, and J. Slatton. It will be necessary to elect six directors in the place of Messrs. Allen, Beck, Kingston, Paxton, and Waterhouse, who retire, and S. Stockes, jun., deceased. In conclusion, the directors are sanguine in the hope that they will be enabled to repeat the dividend of 200s. per cent. in the months of June and September next; and that should the present prosperous state of the company's affairs continue, they will repeat them quarterly.

Balance-Sheet, showing the Expenses and Profits of the Association, from the 31st Dec. 1847, to the 31st Dec., 1848—12 months.

1847—Dec. 31—Expenses of the association, including cost of producing to 11,380 tons of ore £103,434 8 6

1848—Dec. 31—Balance of profit carried down 39,163 12 6

Total £142,598 1 0

1849—Dec. 1—Ninth dividend of 100s. per cent. £12,320 0 0

1850—Mar. 6—Tenth dividend of 200s. per cent. 24,640 0 0

.. 30—Balance of undivided profit 2,203 12 6

1847—Dec. 31—Balance of undivided profit £ 726 6 1

1848—Dec. 31—Fees to date 1,189 11 6

Net proceeds of 11,380 tons of ore 78 7 6

Total £140,603 12 11

1848—Dec. 31—Balance of profit brought down £39,163 12 6

Current Balance-Sheet, from 31st Dec., 1848, to 30th March, 1850.

Profit and loss £ 2,203 12 6

Capital stock, 12,320f.; rent of land and buildings, 2922.17s. 6d. 12,602 17 6

Sales of ore, 5814.16s. 5d.; ditto copper, 41,056.11s. 9d. 44,874 7 8

Fees received on transfers, &c. 128 8 6

Sundry creditors, including drafts against 65 tons of copper, and 6993 tons of ore exported for sale 123,723 19 3

Eight dividend—balance unpaid £195 0 0

Ninth dividend ditto 290 0 0

Tenth dividend ditto 730 0 0

Unclaimed dividend 600 0 0

Total £167,363 5 8

Landed property £ 12,206 11 3

Buildings	17,327	1	1
Wages and sundry accounts connected with the working of the Burra Burra Mines, including cost of plant, fixed machinery, timber, horses, bags, tools, implements, corn, stores, &c.	100,120	11	0
Cartage of ore, 29,144.12s. 6d.; cartage of copper, 1330.14s.	23,465	6	6
Charges—being expenses of establishment, officers' salaries, &c.	5,721	6	5
Colonial freight and agency 107 13	13	6	6
Discount, exchange, and interest 3,963 12	7	0	0
Shipping expense and port agency 2,056	0	0	0
Office furniture, 220.13s. 6d.; sundry debtors, 1751.19s. 5d.	1,978	12	10
Bills receivable, 19,652.10s. 8d.; cash in hand, 264.18s. 8d.	19,917	9	4
Bank of Australasia (unclaimed dividend fund) 600	0	0	0
Total £167,363 5 8			

Liabilities and Assets of the Association—30th March, 1850.

LIABILITIES.	BALANCE.
Capital stock £12,320	0 0
Sundry creditors 125,723	19 3
Balance of ninth dividend, 195.; balance of tenth ditto, 200.; balance of tenth ditto, 750.	1,225
Unclaimed dividends 600	0 0
Outstanding claims, current accounts with workmen and others 14,920	1 2
Balance (or profit) 69,779	8 0
Total £254,478	1 1

AMENTS.

Landed property, consisting of 11,740 acres, including the Burra Burra Mines, valued at original cost £12,206	11	3
Buildings erected by the company, exclusive of those erected by tenants 17,327	1	1
Estimated net value of 65 tons copper and 6993 tons ore exported for copper 138,909	0	0
Estimated net value of 1600 tons of ore at the mines and on the road 21,154	0	0
Estimated net value of 21 tons of copper at Port Adelaide 1,533	0	0
Estimated net value of 627 tons of copper ore at Port Adelaide 11,913	0	0
Copper Company 11,060	0	0
Value of plant, machinery, horses, timber, corn, hay, bags, stores, &c. 18,000	0	0
Office furniture, valued at 200	0	0
Sundry debtors, bills receivable, and cash in hand 21,675	8	9
Bank of Australasia (unclaimed dividend fund) 600	0	0
Total £254,478	1	1

REPORT.

The report having been received and adopted, it was resolved, that the qualification for a director be 11 shares; and that they be deposited with the secretary for the time being.—From the statement of the return and sales of copper ore, it appeared that there remained on hand to Sept. 29th, 2966 tons, 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs., and raised since, 7517 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs.: making 10,484 tons 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 24 lbs.; of which there had been exported for sale, 2818 tons 16 cwt. 0 qrs. 24 lbs.; sold in the province, 1214 tons 0 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs.; delivered to the smelting company, 4222 tons 11 cwt. ; and on hand, 2228 tons 20 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.—From the returns of copper, it appeared there remained on hand, 29th Sept., 24 tons 7 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs.; received since of the Patent Copper Company, on account of ore delivered, 622 tons 9 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs.—of which there had been sold in the province, 571 tons 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs.; shipped to England for sale, 54 tons 14 cwt. 3 qrs.; remaining on hand, 20 tons 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs.: making a total of 646 tons 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

UNITED MEXICAN MINING ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the offices, Finsbury-circus, on Wednesday, the 31st July, for receiving the directors' report, and for the election of two directors and one auditor.

JOHN EASTHOPE, Bart., in the chair.

MR. MATHER (the secretary) read the advertisement convening the present and also the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed.

THE CHAIRMAN then read the report, as follows:—

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The directors beg leave to submit to the proprietors the following statement of their affairs:—The manager in Mexico has been unable to make any progress with

runs nearly north-west and south-east, or nearly at right angles with that lode; its dip is as yet undetermined; its size at the surface varies from 3 to 9 ft., with here and there some nodules of the country intermixed. It has already been traced from 6 to 7 fms. in length. It has as yet been so triflingly explored, that I cannot venture an opinion on its permanency; but the present appearance holds out most flattering prospects, and with the very little work that has already been done, we have broken a ton of very good ore.

From the old halvan heaps we have also latterly been more successful, and the produce has thereby much increased. At the mines we have now about 20 tons of ore, a great part of which is undressed, but it will be ready for delivery by the end of this month.

We have now erected three buildings at Kjekkian—a laboratory and two sheds—and the mines have also built a material-house and a dwelling-house: in the course of next week we shall commence operations on the old house, so that it may be put under the same roof with the latter. In other respects I have nothing to communicate.

M. Roym came to Ales on Sunday last, and brought me samples of the new discoveries. The ore is of an unusually rich quality; the stones are massive, and very promising, and are superior to anything of the kind found here for the last eight years. The prospects of your works have thus undergone a highly important and valuable change within the last fortnight; we have thus every reason to feel highly gratified, and I hope the trials now making will develop themselves favourably, and enable me to hand you a further confirmation of this most cheering report with next post. Your wishes with respect to the working of the mines shall be fully complied with, and the development of the several lodes shall be effected as speedily as circumstances will admit. With this post I write the proper authorities in this district, announcing our last discovery, and securing it to the association.

THE WORTHY MINING COMPANY—(SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

Adelaide, April 13.—The water-wheel shaft is now 11 fms. 2 ft. 1 in. deep, the ground harder, and re-set at 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ per fm. We have extended southward on the lode, at Middle Gully, 16 fms. 5 ft. 8 in., with the same development of ore as last reported on, having cut through the lode near the end of our drift; it shows copper from bottom to top of a 6 fm. level, with hard quartz, gossan, and friable spar, 4 ft. wide, underlying east upwards of 3 ft.; as usual, lode regular; we pick rather under the level for the best specimens, and now pursue this lode (No. 1) south under the hill, by two men, at 7 ft. 10 in. per fm. We have not yet cut the lode in the cross-cut west; there are four men here, at 14 ft. per fm. When this lode (No. 3, per plan) is cut, and a little extended on, we shall be in a position to render a comprehensive view, by working plans, of this Middle Gully lode, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, with the shaft, which is now fixed on and commenced for the steam-engine-size, 10 ft. by 6— and now 3 fms. 2 in. deep; we have sunk thus much and timbered by day-work, two fms. more being let at 5 ft. 5 in. per fm. We intend to employ six miners and three windlass men in each shaft, until the whins begin to draw the water and broken contents. We have a second whin being made for the Middle Gully shaft.

April 15.—The water-wheel shaft is being sunk 2 fms. 3 ft. 1 in., and is now worth 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ per fm.; the water in this shaft is much quicker, and the ground harder. The end west is being driven 2 fms. 4 ft., and now worth 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ per fathom; the end south is being driven: 7 fms. 4 ft. 6 in., and now worth 7 ft. 10 in. per fathom. We have, as I told you in my last, cut through and squared up the lode, and driven far enough into the country to drive intersect this lode, we expected to have had much softer ground than on the lode; but finding it as hard, or harder, we have re-commenced to drive on the lode—that is to say, to "dismantle" the lode on the foot, or the upper wall, and cut into the lode now and then, as heretofore, and which looks much the same as when last reported upon. The new engine-shaft is being sunk 3 fm. 0 ft. 2 in. and timbered, and now worth 5 ft. 5 in. per fm.; both the dam and whin round are finished, and hope to be enabled to work the whin about a fortnight's time.

April 19.—*Water Wheel Shaft.*—The works are proceeding satisfactorily, and the shaft is sunk 11 fms. 1 ft. 1 in.; if we should find that it drains the lode, we shall put a pair of hands upon the old whin, for the purpose of an air shaft, and examining the lode in depth as we proceed. We expect the whin to be at work in a fortnight.

Middle Gully.—Here we have commenced an engine-shaft, which is also proceeding satisfactorily, and we expect to be down about 5 fms. this week in soft ground. A whin has been ordered for this work, which we expect will be erected and at work in another month or five weeks; so soon as we get below water level, we shall commence a whin upon the lode in the 9 fm. level, for the purpose of an air shaft, and examining the lode from time to time in depth.

Driving South on First Lode.—We expect to cut this lode during the month, and shall, in all probability, continue driving west to cut another lode that shows on the surface, about 12 fms. off, exhibiting carbonate of lime.

Hodgkinson's Shaft.—We purpose concentrating what strength we can afford on to the whin bringing out the lode; this will be preparatory to proceeding with the shaft, and is in conformity with the visitor's report, forming an air shaft, and proving the lode at the same time. We purpose communicating with you again at the end of the month, if there should be a chance of forwarding a letter overland, with the view of affording the latest information for the general meeting of shareholders in August; but, as we do not contemplate any change during the next 10 days, it will depend upon an opportunity offering.

MINING NOTABILIA.

[EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.]

CAMBORNE CONSOLS.—They have just cut a good course of ore in the 40 fm. level, on Martin's lode, about 18 in. wide, producing 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of rich yellow ore per fm. at the lowest computation, and it is improving.

TRELYON CONSOLS (St. Ives) is much improved. The tin lode in the 32 fm. level in Wheal Venture, part of the set, is 14 inches wide; and the copper course in the same level, parallel with the tin course, is 6 inches wide, and much improved in quality. It is expected that another lode will be cut in a few days, even more productive than the present one. A 60 fathom level is about to be driven where much tin has formerly been raised.

TREBELL CONSOLS MINE is taken up by a London party; it is in 2048 shares, of 25s. each. Mr. Peters, of Callington, is the resident manager; Mr. Verran, the purser; and Capt. H. Williams, the managing agent. Most of the shares are taken up, and the mine at work.

LAMHEROOC.—At the recent general meeting of adventurers, held in King-street, Cheapside, Capt. Tabb, the agent, attended, and explained that he had delayed erecting the kiln for roasting the tin ore in consequence of not being able to obtain a loan of stamps, and fearing to incur the expense of purchasing them, whilst it was uncertain whether the lode would settle down into tin or copper. He, however, undertook to dress 5 tons; and, having succeeded, through the kindness of a neighbouring manager, in procuring the loan of stamps, the question, as to the value of the tin out of Lamherooce Mine, will soon be brought to the proper test. The lode continues good; and the tin is obtained by stoping between the 50 and 60 fm. levels. At the meeting above alluded to, a resolution was arrived at to purchase the Lamherooce estate by a new company, formed exclusively of Lamherooce adventurers, in 100 shares; and the purchase has been concluded for the sum of 4000*l.*, including the dues, except 1-6th. The whole of the capital is subscribed. A deputation was appointed to visit the mine; and it may be concluded that its future prospects were perfectly satisfactory to them, as evidenced by the purchase of the estate. Such a purchase we believe to be a novelty in the history of mining.

PETER TAVY AND MARY TAVY CONSOLS.—A report from the agent, Capt. John Lean, states, that the new wheel is complete, and the men are working day and night with extra hands—as carpenters, blacksmiths, &c.—to get it immediately in work and the water in fork. Other hands are engaged in getting ready the capstan, shears, bobs, and drawing machine. The wheel and other machinery, constructed under the able management of Mr. Anthony Rouse, of Wheal Friendship, is considered of superior construction, and has sufficient power to carry the mine down to the 120 fm. level; and hopes are confidently held out that the miners will shortly commence operations in the whin of the 50 fm. level. This mine is now resuming operations after lying idle twelve years, and every hope is entertained of ultimate success. There are sufficient funds to work without a call for 12 months,—with a spirited proprietary to meet one, should it be necessary. We understand the shares are all taken up—being 1000, at 50s. per share; and a code of rules and regulations have been agreed to, consistent with the Cost-book System.

WHEAL GOLDEN CONSOLS, comprising Wheal Golden, Penhale, Lomax, and East Wheal Golden Mines, in the parish of Perranzabuloe, in the county of Cornwall, divided into 4000 shares, 2*s*. per share paid up. Conducted on the Cost book Principle. These mines comprise upwards of 300 acres, and are held under fresh grants, for 21 years at 1-24th dues. The Wheal Golden, Lomax, and Penhale sets are on one continuous lode, in length upwards of 1200 fms., on which 13 shafts have been sunk by men of old, and upwards of 3000 fms. of levels driven. But for 20 years previous to the year 1848, these mines were not worked. Various causes were assigned why they had been abandoned; among others, impudent and reckless management, the low price of lead, and the most prevailing, that the sea had been tapped and the mines inundated. However, all fears on this head are removed; the water was forked out of the Wheal Golden Mine in May, 1849, from which period it has been kept in fork, by the engine performing three to four strokes per minute. Many months were spent in clearing the various levels of the runs and rubbish which had crowded them by lapse of time, and it was not until October last the mine might be said to be brought into profitable working; from that period the produce has paid the monthly costs, the sale of ore having amounted to 3227*l.* 5*s*. the last lots realising 14*s*. per ton. The return for May and June leaving nearly 500*l.* profit. The sets of Penhale and East Wheal Golden Mines were also granted to the present company at 1-24th dues, for a term of 21 years; and an adit level on East Wheal Golden, which a former company had driven about 50 fathoms, is now being continued. This lode is parallel to the lodes in Wheal Golden, Lomax, and Penhale, distant about 120 fms., and 1200 fms. long, and has been costeamed and traced throughout the whole length. The end of the present adit is about 12 fms. from a large elvan cross-course, and about 120 fms. from the shaft sunk by the former company, who, without any engine or machinery, took out and sold many tons of ore. The mines are now replete with ample machinery. In addition to the 50-inch pumping-engine which keeps the water as described, there is the hauling and crushing-engine, with rollers, &c., complete, three horse-whims, and railways from the different shafts to the dressing-flours.

SOUTH TAMAR (Silver-Lead), in connection with East Tamar, has been worked at different times since the reign of Queen Anne, and yielded vast quantities of rich silver-lead ore. The mine, with its extensive machinery, was purchased by the present proprietors early in 1849. Conducted on the Cost-

book System, in 9000 shares, 1*s*. paid up. Managed by a committee in London, consisting of Sir Hyde Parker, Bart., O. H. Smith, Esq., W. A. Thomas, Esq., and John Browne, Esq. Part of the set, consisting of 528 fathoms, extending to the banks of the River Tamar, is held on lease from the Earl Mount Edgecombe, for 21 years, from the 30th of April, 1846, at 1-20th dues. Another part of the set, extending 880 fathoms, on a mile under the river, is held under lease from the Duchy of Cornwall, at the same dues, and from the same date. The operations of the present company have been principally confined to clearing out the different levels and opening ore ground for future returns. The first sale of lead took place in August, 1849, and to the end of June this year, the returns have been 395 tons, yielding 68*l*. 6*s*. 7*d*. The present rate of produce yields a small monthly profit.

The UNITED MINES (Tavistock), to which we referred in a late Number of the *Mining Journal*, is now before the public in 1024 shares. The statement of the proprietors will be found in our advertising columns. Upwards of 400 of the shares are held by persons resident in the district, and the sets appear to be regarded with great favour.

CARN BREA MINING COMPANY.

Carn Brea.—The attention of the directors of the Carn Brea Mines has been called to a paragraph which appeared in your paper of the 20th July, in which it is stated "that the set of South Carn Brea originated, you believed, with the Carn Brea Company, under whose management it is to be conducted." I am instructed by the directors of the Carn Brea Mines to inform you that they did not originate the scheme, and have nothing to do with the management of South Carn Brea.—G. MEAGLE, clerk: *Queen-street-place, Thames-street, August 1.*

MINING STATISTICS.

Sir.—In reply to your correspondent, "A.", I know of only one West Providence Mine. It was originally in 256 shares; but these have lately been doubled or made into 512ths. If your correspondent will refer again to the list of dividends to the end of June, he will find the "1024," which he takes to be the number of shares, was given as the amount of money paid by the mine in six months—being, as given in the second column, 4*s*. per share (26*l*), the price 30*l*, also per 256ths, was about correct at the time. The amount given as "paid up" must have been a clerical error. J. Y. WATSON. *St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, Aug. 2.*

MINING IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF ASHBURTON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Ashburton is one of the most ancient, if not the oldest, stannary town in Devon, but still the district around has been but little investigated; until a comparatively late date the mineral searched for has been tin only, but copper mines have since been worked. Within 12 miles of Ashburton the following mines have either been or are now working—viz., Wheal Adams, Wheal Exmouth, the Whidden, West Beam, Goodstone, Hennock Silver-lead, the Hennock Iron mine, Old Owlcote (now called Ashburton United), South Plain Wood, Waze Alston, Dean Prior and Buckfastleigh; Wrey Consols, Rannford Coombe, Brook Mine, the Avon Consols, Silver Brook and Brim's Tin mines. Mining grants are being applied for on the properties of Lord Cranston, Rev. Thomas Kitson, Capt. Bastard, Mr. John Sandye, and E. R. P. Bastard, Esq. We purpose presenting the readers of the *Mining Journal* with a description of some of the before-named mines. Great praise is due to Mr. Murray, jun., for the trouble he has taken in investigating this district, in which he has been ably assisted by two local gentlemen, Messrs. Palk and Caunter. Several of the mining agents in the district have agreed to hold monthly meetings for the discussion of matters in relation to practical mining only; and we consider such meetings must be necessarily advantageous to the increase of mining knowledge in all its branches; and result, without doubt, in repeated communication to our journal.

Our correspondent of last week is in error, as to the supineness of Exeter men in mining speculations—several capitalists of that old city being extensively engaged in Cornish mines; and an influential body of them have at last turned their attention to this district, and will, we believe, go confidently and heartily to work, under an able local direction.

Current Prices of Stocks, Shares, & Metals.

STOCK EXCHANGE, Saturday morning Eleven o'clock.

Bank Stock, 8 per Cent., 911 12	Belgian, 4 <i>s</i> per Cent., —
3 per Cent. Reduced Ann., 971 12	Dutch, 2 <i>s</i> per Cent., 571 12
3 <i>s</i> per Cent. Consols Ann., 961 12	Brasilian, 5 per Cent., 921 2 12
3 <i>s</i> per Cent. Ann., 981 12	Chilian, 6 per Cent., 1031 3
Long Annuities, 4 <i>s</i>	Mexican 5 per Cent., ex-fwd., 291 2 12
India Stock, 10 <i>s</i> per Cent., 270	Russian, 5 per Cent., 1111 11
3 per Cent. Con. for 14 <i>s</i> Aug. 961 12	Spanish, 5 nov.-cent., 171 2 12
Excheq. Bills, 100 <i>l</i> , 1 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . 70 <i>s</i> pm.	Switz. 5 per Cent., 371 2 12

MINES.—The amount of business actually transacted during the week appears to have been limited; notwithstanding, dividend-paying and leading mines continue being sought after.

May Ann has been in demand, and business done at an advanced price. Trevisekey and Barrier, South Tolgus, and Condurrow are also inquired for. In the former mine we learn, from a recent inspection, that upwards of 35,000*l.* worth of ore had been laid open.

South Carn Brea has been in request, and several shares changed hands. Tywarnhayle, Treleigh Consols, Kirkudbrightshire, South Tolgus, and Alfred Consols, are among the several mines reported to have improved.

Tincroft is represented to maintain her improved position: 20 tons of ore were sold on the 30th July, at 4*s*. per ton, and 2 tons at 25*s*. per ton.

Callington Mines are looking better: 55 tons of silver-lead ore were sold on Wednesday—49 tons at 17*s*. 12*d*. and 6 tons at 17*s*. 7*d*. being the returns for the month. This will leave a profit of 130*l.* on Callington Mines, and about 80*l.*, including Kelly Bray expenditure.

East Tamar silver-lead ores were sold yesterday to Messrs. Newton, Keates, and Co., whose tender for the 65 tons was 16*s*. 12*d*. per ton.

Last week we stated that a dividend of 20*s*. per share was declared in Wheal Friendship; it should have been the Lisburne Mines, in Wales, under the same management—that of Messrs. John Taylor and Son.

At the Holyford meeting, the report stated that the operations had been carried on with a loss during the past six months; but, by suspending some tutwork operations, the expenditure had been considerably reduced, and a decided improvement having taken place, there is every probability of the most profitable results. The manager's report of the mine is of the most gratifying character. The lode in the 20 and 30 fm. levels is highly productive; the lode in the whin-shaft is worth 17*s*. per fm., and the mine, generally, never appeared in so favourable a position.

At a special meeting of Lamherooce shareholders, held on the 1st inst., a proprietor of 100 shares was formed, for the purchase of the freehold estate in which the mine is situate, consisting of 133 acres. The amount of purchase money appears to be 4000*l.*, and the new company consists entirely of holders in the mine, who are now the owners of the royalty, comprising the lease, dues, &c., granted by the late lord.

At the West Seton meeting, on Tuesday, a call of 2*s*. per share was made.

At the South Wheal Josiah two-monthly meeting, the accounts showed—Balance in hand, 71*s*. 5*d*. 11*s*.; call, 12*s*.; sale of copper ore, 7*s*. 16*s*. 11*d*.; carriage, 1*s*. 7*d*. = 201*l.* 18*s*. 5*d*.—By costs for February, March, April, and May, 99*s*. 16*s*. 4*d*.; merchants' bills, 12*s*. 2*d*. 7*s*.: leaving balance in hand, 89*s*. 19*s*. 6*d*.—The agent's report will appear in our next.

At the Tresavean meeting, held on Tuesday last, the accounts were presented, showing—Balance from last account, 813*s*. 11*s*. 6*d*.; ore sold (less debts), 1647*s*. 9*d*.; sundry credits, 309*s*. 19*s*. = 2770*l.* 19*s*. 10*d*.—To costs and merchants' bills for May and June, 2207*l.* 10*s*. 7*d*.: leaving balance in hand, 563*s*. 9*s*. 3*d*.

Shares in the following mines have changed hands during the week:—East Wheal Rose, South Tolgus, Trelewlyn, Mary Ann, Crebor, Condurrow, South Plain Wood, South Carn Brea, Wheal Sarah, Tresavean, Wheal Harriet, Wheal Langford, Treffusis, East Tamar, Heigaston Downs, South Basset, Hennock, Bawden, Tremayne, West Caradon, Tincroft, Tamar Consols, Drake Walls, Cook's Kitchen, North Buller, West Providence, Venton, Levant, Tregear Consols, West Tolgus, Trellispick, and Bodmin Moor Consols.

In Foreign Mines there have been transactions in United Mexican, Imperial Brazilian, Linares, Cobre, St. John del Rey, Australian, and Copiapo.

Despatches have been received by the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association down to the 23rd May. Last week we gave the gold report, since which the mining report has been received, from which we learn that the returns from Gongo Soco for ten days ending the 3rd of May, was 3 lbs. 6 ozs. 1 dwt.; to the 13th May, 3 lbs. 4 ozs. 1 dwt. At Bananal, the stop

PRICES OF MINING SHARES.

Many of our readers and valued correspondents having often suggested the desirability of enlarged information in our Share List, by stating the locality of each mine, and the mineral produced, we are at length induced to enclose to their wishes. As it is exceedingly difficult to obtain a correct knowledge of all the mines in our list in London, we trust the agents, and others interested, will assist us in making corrections, filling up blanks, and rendering the list comparatively free from the errors it has occasionally been subjected to, from the withholding of information by parties connected with the mines. We shall also at all times feel thankful for correct information as to the number of shares amount paid, price, &c., our object being to present as perfect a list as can be procured.

BRITISH MINES.

Shares.	Company.	Paid.	Price.
1000	Abergweskin (silver-lead), South Wales	9	—
1024	Alfred Consols (copper), Haylo, Cornwall	84	27 30 32
1245	Alt-y-Crib (silver-lead), Talybont, Cardiganshire	5	5 54
1624	Balnewden (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	9	14
128	Balnoon Consols (tin), Uay Lelant, Cornwall	42	29
905	Barriston (lead), Carrick, Ireland	51	3
3650	Bawden (silver-lead), Cornwall	4	3 3
4000	Bedford United (copper), Tavistock, Devon	23	44 4
1280	Birch Tor and Vitifer (tin), Dartmoor, Devon	104	73 4
5000	Black Craig and Craigton (lead), Scotland	—	5
8000	Blasenau (iron), South Wales	50	124
1024	Bodmin Consols (lead), Wadebridge, Cornwall	3	3
5000	Bodmin Moor Consols (tin and copper), Bodmin, Cornwall	1	3
60	Bosorn (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	43	10 12
100	Botallack (tin and copper), St. Just, Cornwall	182	150
2000	Bottle Hill (tin and copper), Plympton, Devon	2	2
1500	Bridford Wheal Augusta (lead), Bridford, Devon	4	—
10000	British Iron, New, regis. (iron), South Wales	12	8
—	Ditto ditto, script	10	10
2400	Bry-Arian (lead), Cardiganshire	2	24 3
107	Budnick Consols (tin), Perranzabuloe, Cornwall	524	10 11
260	Butterdon (lead), Menheniot, Cornwall	1	2 3
2000	Bwlch Consols (silver-lead), Cardiganshire	—	4
1000	Callington (lead and copper), Callington, Cornwall	26	5 6
1000	Camborne Consols (copper), Camborne, Cornwall	7	4
20000	Cameron's Steam Coal (coal), Swansea, Wales	7	—
256	Caradon Mines (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	224	10
256	Caradon United (tin and copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	24	5 8
1536	Caradon Vale (copper and lead), St. Ives, Cornwall	4	14 14
1000	Carbone (tin and copper), Crowan, near Camborne	5	12 15
1000	Car Brea (copper and tin), Illogan, Cornwall	15	115 125
3000	Cartewh Consols (cop. & lead), near Wadebridge, Cornwall	34	7
132	Carvannal (copper), Gwennap	213	60 80
113	Charlestown (tin and copper), St. Austell, Cornwall	220	—
500	Comblawn (lead), Callington, Cornwall	53	44
128	Comfort (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	45	95 110
256	Condurrow (copper and tin), Camborne, Cornwall	20	115 120
256	Cook's Kitchen (copper and lead), St. Ives, Cornwall	14	6 6
1000	Coombe Valley Quarry (tin), St. Gennys, Cornwall	5	5 5
1000	Copper Botton (copper), Crowan, Cornwall	74	—
211	Cradock Moor (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	27	8
256	Cranes and Bejaws, Camborne	27	10
1000	Cwn Eifin (lead), Cardiganshire	4	34 4
1000	Daren (silver-lead), Cardiganshire	2	7 7
7100	Derwent (silver-lead), Durban	10	3
1040	Devon and Courtney Consols (copper), near Tavistock	112	3 3
1024	Devon Great Consols (copper), near Tavistock	1	235
1000	Dhurole (copper), Ireland	2	5
182	Dolcoath (copper and tin), Camborne	30	20
256	Dolcoath Walls (tin and copper), Calstock, Cornwall	63	24 3
10000	Durham County Coal (coal), Durham	45	9
3000	Dyngwyr (lead), North Wales	10	5
1024	East Balnewden (tin), Sancroft, Cornwall	4	—
256	East Birchen (tin), North Bovey, near Ashburton	3	3
1024	East Buller (copper), near Redruth, Cornwall	2	5
128	East Carr Brea (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	1	23
2048	East Crowndale (tin), Tavistock	74	18
256	East Godolph (copper), Illogan, Cornwall	103	13
4000	East Gunnislake Junction (copper), Gunnislake	15	—
—	East Seton and Wheal Mauds, near Redruth, Cornwall	—	—
9000	East Tamar Consols (silver-lead), Beer Ferris, Devon	18	12 14
256	East Tolgus, Redruth, Cornwall	18	8
1000	East Trescol (tin), Laxivet, near Bodmin, Cornwall	1	3
128	East Tywarnhayle (copper), near Portreath, Cornwall	—	—
136	East Wheal Ager (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	—	—
94	East Wheal Crofty (copper), Illogan, Cornwall	125	95
128	East Wheal Rose (silver-lead), Newlyn, Cornwall	56	520 530
1280	Esgair Lled (lead), Llanfihangel-y-Crothyn, Cardigan	2	3 3
248	Fenner Wheal Eliza (copper), South Molton, Devon	11	8 10
494	Fowey Consols (copper), Tywarnhayle, Cornwall	40	30
1024	Freidell Llywdd Mines (lead), Wales	14	32
256	Garras (lead), near Truro	41	23
4000	General Mining Company for Ireland (copper), Ireland	14	4
100	Goginan (lead), Cardiganshire	5	200
256	Gonamena (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	44	16
2500	Georgia Consols (tin), St. Ives, Cornwall	2	3
256	Gamble and St. Aubyn (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	80	17
96	Great Consols (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	1000	250
512	Great Wheal Badder (tin and silver-lead), Ken, Cornwall	20	85 90
6000	Growth Slate Company, Cameloe, Cornwall	5	5
1024	Gustavus Mines (lead), Callington	3	25 3
6000	Hawkmoor (copper), Calstock, Gunnislake	5	6 6
6000	Heington Down Consols (copper), Calstock, Cornwall	21	3 3
1500	Hennock (silver-lead), Hennock, near Exeter, Devon	265	3
512	Herodsfoot (lead), near Liskeard	16	14 15
10000	Hibernian (copper), Ireland	124	18
1000	Holmbois (lead and copper), Callington	23	12 15
1900	Keswick (copper), Fornethgate, near Keswick	10	2 3
1024	Kingscott & Bedford (lead & copper), St. Mary Tavy, Devon	31	3
787	Kirkcudbrightshire (lead), Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland	88	5 5
2018	Lamhercoo Wheal Maria (copper and tin), Lamerton	10	6 7
252	Lanarth Consols (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	—	10
160	Leant Consols (tin), Uay Lelant, Cornwall	47	17 29
1000	Levant (copper and tin), St. Just, Cornwall	—	160
100	Lewis (tin and copper), St. Just, Cornwall	17	104 11
100	Lisburne (lead), Cardiganshire	75	600
1000	Llywymena (lead), Cardiganshire	91	9 10
3500	Llynlyr Iron (iron), North Wales	50	50
6000	Marke Valley (copper), Caradon, Cornwall	10	2 1
5000	Mendip Hills (lead), near Bristol	34	12 12
128	Metha (lead) Newlyn, Cornwall	34	—
256	Mineral Court (tin), St. Stephens, near St. Austell	131	30 40
20000	Mining Co. of Ireland (copper, &c.), Waterford, Ireland	7	4
1024	Modthorn & Marrabro (copper & lead), Bodmin-Fleming	12	31
3000	Nant-y-Cae (copper), near Rhayader, Breconshire	5	—
1024	New East Crowndale (copper and tin), Tavistock	2	2
1024	North Wall Bassett (copper and tin), Illogan, Cornwall	10	5 5
1024	North Buller (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	2	—
256	North Wheal Basset (tin and copper), Illogan, Cornwall	4	—
1024	North Wheal Tolgas (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	4	—
100	North Pool (copper and tin), Pool, Cornwall	45	400
140	North Roskar (copper), Camborne, Cornwall	51	—
256	North Wheal Leisure, Perranzabuloe, Cornwall	14	2
128	Par Consols (copper), St. Blazey, Cornwall	55	650
1024	Pendarves Consols (copper), Camborne, Cornwall	2	6 5
1000	Pendarves and St. Aubyn (copper), Camborne, Cornwall	4	5 5
4934	Pennant and Craigwen (lead), Wales	3	4 4
2048	Pentive Glaze, United (silver-lead), St. Marvin, Cornwall	3	4
1000	Penbyank and Erglodd (lead), Cardiganshire	4	5
1024	Penzance Consols (tin), Sancroft, Cornwall	224 32	24
512	Plymouth Wheat Yealand (tin), Plymouth, Devonshire	61	6
2500	Rhossiddol and Bacheddol (lead), North Wales	10	10
10000	Rhymney Iron (iron), Rhymney, South Wales	50	12
10000	Dido New	7	3
5000	Roche Rock (tin), Roche, near St. Austell	1	12 2
5000	Rocks Mine (tin), Roche, near St. Austell	5	6 7
2048	Runnaford Coombe (tin), Devon	21	5 51
2048	Snowdon (copper), Carnarvonshire, Wales	3	5
9000	South Tamar (silver-lead), Beer Ferris, Devon	1	24 3
128	South Caradon (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	5	290
1100	South Dolcoath (copper), Camborne, Cornwall	6	1
256	South Friendship Wheal Ann (copper), Devonshire	30	28 30
1024	South Molton (lead), Devonshire	7	12 13
1024	South Plain Wood (copper), Ashburton, Devon	2	8 5
256	South Speed (copper and tin), Uay Lelant, Cornwall	10	30
256	South Tolgas (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	16	132 135
2000	South Trelawny (lead), near Liskeard, Cornwall	28	5 8
256	South Wheal Bassett (copper), Illogan, Cornwall	142	320 330
256	South Wheal Josiah (copper), Calstock, Cornwall	2	3 4
10000	Southern and Western, Irish (copper), Cork, Ireland	24	4
280	Spears Moor (copper), St. Just, Cornwall	30	40
256	Trebarwith (copper), St. Just, Cornwall	10	60
1000	Trebarwith (copper), St. Just, Cornwall	104	22
6000	Tavy Consols (copper), near Tavistock, Devon	3	44
7	Tincroft (copper and tin), near Pool, Cornwall	7	11 12
1024	Trelusback, Stithians, Cornwall	71	8
240	Tokenbury (copper), St. Ives, near Liskeard	8	17
5000	Tregear Consols (antimony and silver-lead), St. Kew	1	2 24
256	Trehane (silver-lead), Menheniot	34	5
5000	Treligh Consols (copper), Redruth	6	34
1500	Trelony Consols (copper), Helston, Cornwall	74	10
2000	Trenance (copper), Helston, Cornwall	3	—
96	Tresavean (copper), Gwennap	10	130

BRITISH MINES—Continued.

Company.	Paid.	Price.
120 Trevisker and Barrier (copper), Gwennap	5	25 30
120 Trevikey (copper), St. Cleer, Cornwall	23	31
512 Trevilly (lead), Lowenick	5	74
1000 Tyllwyd (lead), Cardiganshire	9	24
200 United Mines (copper), Gwennap	50	160
5000 Warleggan Consols (copper), Cornwall	4	2
256 Wellington Mines (copper and tin), Perranuthnoe, Corn	25	274
128 West Buller (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	10	650
256 West Caradon (copper		

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* We must impress upon our correspondents, the necessity of invariably furnishing us with their names and addresses—not that their communications should, consequently, be noticed, but as an earnest of us of their good faith.

WHEAL MAY MINING COMPANY.—To avoid any misconception regarding this speculation, we have been requested to state that the object at present is solely to obtain sufficient funds to ascertain whether the property contains lodes, indications of lead and silver, &c., as will warrant extensive explorations, according to the advice given them by Mr. Hopkins. It has been frequently stated, in several communications which have appeared in our Journal, by Mr. Hopkins, that no dependence can be placed on silver when combined with copper ore, and especially in east and west lodes, in Cornwall and Devon; Mr. Hopkins, who was sent for, and attended just as the meeting was over, distinctly explained this, and desired them to make a search for a north and south lode, carrying lead, as, without which, he did not think much of the silver. Until these essential points are proved by coring, nothing can be said, *pro or con*, respecting the prospects of this concern. Capt. Carpenter will, doubtless, soon determine this question. Mr. Hopkins agreed to be the consulting engineer, to see that the trials are judiciously made, and will advise them to proceed, or stop, when he has the opportunity of inspecting the mine.

The communications of "An Old Friend" (Regent's-park) have been received.

"M." (Plymouth).—See the paper on the Explosion of Steam-engine Boilers, in the *Mining Journal* of the 26th May last.

"R. L." (Liverpool).—In the Journal of the 26th July we gave an official return of all the companies (180) now passing under the jurisdiction of the Winding-up Act. Many others will be added from time to time, but we are not aware that any one officer or person can give particulars. Application should be made to the solicitors of the several companies named, who will readily give information. We stated, last week, that the expenses of winding-up the Direct, Exeter, Plymouth, and Devonport Railway exceeded the amount of debt to be paid off.

"Not a Mine Broker" (Cornhill).—The communication is declined.

"A Shareholder" (Bristol).—Address the secretary, at the offices of the company, Old Broad-street, who, we have no doubt, will give the required information.

"An Irish Emigrant" (Cork).—There can be no doubt but that emigration increases a great extent every year, and there are many fine fields now open for exertion, that to man, are fairly suited in Canada, South Australia, Natal, or the Western States of America, with a family, might soon secure himself to a comfortable independence. We must, however, caution our correspondent against these swindlers prowling about under the name of Land Societies, for the sole purpose of procuring money, under pretence of finding agents in the United States who will settle them on the land; but when these arrive we have to shift for ourselves—perhaps 1000 miles from their intended allocation. We have heard of a concern of this description, lately placarded in Manchester and Liverpool, under the title of the "United States Land and Emigration Society, and Working Men's Mutual Mining and Manufacturing Association," with directors, treasurers, engineers, secretary, managers, agents, &c., heading a most flaming prospectus, and naming the respectable firm of Brown, Shipley, and Co., as bankers. We know not how many dupes they may have obtained, but one man at Bolton, perhaps more discreet than others—wrote to Messrs. Brown and Co., inquiring if Mr. S. T., of Manchester, was an agent for the association, and if that house was their bankers. To this a reply was forwarded, that Messrs. Brown knew nothing whatever of Mr. S. T., or such an association, and there was no doubt the whole was a hoax to entrap the unwary. The document was also placed in the hands of the police, but they were unsuccessful in tracing out any individual connected with the transaction. This fact should put our correspondent and others on their guard, as there are other similar schemers abroad.

"M. T." (Tavistock).—We decline inserting the communication. Independent of any other consideration, we should have thought that our correspondent ought to have been satisfied with the numerous reports, both public and private, which have been made by well-known and experienced miners on the property, after careful personal investigation, to which we beg to refer him.

"W. M." (Truro).—We have no doubt but that the recent absurd alterations in the postal regulations will very shortly be abrogated. The Journal is obtained in most large towns on Sunday morning, through the exertions of some spirited agents.

"J. B. K." (Old Kent-road) is under a very erroneous impression in supposing we have stated publishing his letter from the motives he assigns. We could not afford space for the multitude of correspondence we are favoured with, and which compels us to select, frequently to abridge, and sometimes to omit, letters on all subjects and from all parts—our endeavour always being to act impartially. We have no feeling, friendly or otherwise, towards Mr. Thomas, therefore could have no reason for withholding communications respecting Wheal Samson, or any other adventure with which he may be connected; in proof, we now append what "J. B. K." states was his chief object for writing:—"To open Mr. Thomas's eyes to the fact that, unless he felt inclined to answer Mr. Ennor's fair and straightforward question, his conduct would have a strong tendency to prejudice my own and the public mind against his former favourable report of Wheal Samson."

GEORGE STEPHENSON'S BIRTH-PLACE.—We feel obliged to our correspondent, Mr. Andrew Smith, C.E., for his sketch of the cottage in which this distinguished man was born; but do not think the publication of an engraving would answer any good purpose. While we cannot feel an interest in all that is connected with George Stephenson, throughout a long career, marked by powerful talent, amiability of disposition, and goodness of heart, we feel that he has achieved sufficient to immortalise his name, and that a simple picture of the cottage in which he was born would add but little to his fame.

"P. D." (Paris).—The offices of the Valley of Loïches Mining and Smelting Company were in Southampton-street, Strand. There were parties, or sections, in the company; after a tedious litigation as to the right of possession, one of them retired on a compromise. We are not aware where the present offices are situated, nor do we know who are the present directors.

"A Young Miner" (Carbone) can obtain our "Glossary of English and Foreign Mining and Smelting Terms" through any bookseller, price 2s.

"An Engineer" (Limehouse).—We gave a description of M. Richard's Union Fan and Piston Air-engine, by the inventor, in the *Mining Journal* of the 23rd March last. M. Richard's address is, Seraieng, Liege.

"A. B." (Glasgow).—The paper descriptive of a Visit to Dundyvan Iron-works is very interesting, and we shall give it, if possible, in our next Journal.

"N." (Regent's-park).—Mr. Staite is, we believe, now in Manchester, where he has exhibited his light, to the utmost satisfaction of all present; he has also delivered a lecture on the subject at Carlisle. We have no idea when he will return to London, but will forward any letter which may be addressed to our office.

"J. H." (Bolton).—The Anglo-Californian Mining and Dredging Company have, we believe, dispatched two bodies of men to California. We have read the reports of a gentleman of the name of Palmer, who styles himself "engineer-in-chief"; but we have not heard whether any of the gold mentioned in that report has arrived in England. By the provincial papers we observe that they are about to form depots for assaying and purchasing gold dust raised by individuals direct. We make no comments on the property they hold out to those to whom they offer their shares, nor can we give any opinion as to their value; a respectable broker, either here or at Liverpool, would be able to tell at what value they stand in the market.

Edward Halsted (Kensington).—A portion of Parliament-street, leading from the corner of Bridge-street Westminster, was laid down by the material furnished by the Metropolitan Stone Company, whose offices were in Bridge-street. From there they have largely removed; the company still exists, and no doubt will soon recommence operations.

Mr. David Musket's paper on Mine Inspection shall appear in our next Journal; also the notice respecting Dean Forest Iron Ore.

The space occupied by the proceedings of companies compels us to omit several papers, letters, &c.—among which are Mr. Brathwaite Foole's Report on Coal Traffic; the conclusion of Professor Fyle's paper on Water and Resin Gas; an abstract of the Contracts of the Asturian Mining Company; and much miscellaneous information.

* It is particularly requested that all communications may be addressed—

TO THE EDITOR,
Mining Journal,
26, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

And Post-office orders made payable to Wm. Salmon Mansell, as acting for the proprietors.

THE MINING JOURNAL

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, AUGUST 3, 1850.

The *Mining Journal* is published at about Eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, at the office, 26, Fleet-street, and can be obtained, before Twelve, of all news agents, at the Royal Exchange, and other parts of London.

The report of the proceedings of the RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS for 1849 has just been published, and from the immense amount of capital invested in this species of security, and the awful depreciation to which it has been subject, the document will be found a highly important one. By it we learn that, in the year 1849, a very large increase in railway communication has taken place as compared with any previous year. At the commencement of the year, 5127 miles of railway were open for public traffic, including some miles of mineral lines, not included in previous reports: 869 miles have been opened during the year—630 miles in England, 108 in Scotland, and 131 in Ireland, making the entire railway communication at the end of the year 5996 miles—being, England 4856 miles, Scotland 846 miles, Ireland 494 miles. At the end of 1849 there were 6030 miles of railway, which had been authorised by Parliament, and still remained to be completed. The principal part of the lines opened during the year were among those authorised in 1845 and 1846, and that the proportion of lines sanctioned in those years, the powers for construction of which have not been abandoned, is very great, being one-third and three-fourths respectively, and a still larger proportion for 1847. It also appears that, on the 30th June last, 1504 miles of railway were in course of construction, and 5132 miles of authorised lines had not been commenced; since which time, up to the end of the year, 576 miles have been open for public traffic. The reduction in the number of persons employed in the construction of railways has been 84,361 persons, against an increase of 3280 employed upon lines open for traffic, showing that 81,081 persons, who, in May, 1848, were actively employed in some capacity upon

railways, had been removed, and thrown on the general labour market of the country. Of this number 18,000 have been thrown out of employment in Ireland. This, added to the reduction in the previous year, gives a total of 150,000 who have been thrown out of employment, and which will be still further augmented in the present year, unless a great change takes place in railway affairs; probably 60,000 persons will be added to the above number.

The aggregate expenditure on railways has been 200,173,053*l.*, of which 43,664,480*l.* was raised by loans, bearing an average of 4*%* per cent., and being, therefore, an annual charge on the permanently-invested property of 2,020,334*l.* The gross receipts from all the railways in 1849 amounted to 11,806,498*l.* from which, if the working expenses be deducted, at the rate of 4*%* per cent., there remains a net available profit of about 6,729,420*l.* to remunerate the holders of property to the amount of 197,500,000*l.*, or at the rate of 3*%* per cent.

The number of passengers travelling on these 5996 miles was 63,841,539, producing 6,277,892*l.* and the amount received for goods 5,528,606*l.* Of the 6,277,892*l.* so derived from passengers, 1,927,767*l.* was received from first-class carriages, 2,530,968*l.* from second-class, 713,592*l.* from third-class, 1,104,884*l.* from parliamentary trains, and 2678*l.* from mixed. On an increase of about 6,000,000 passengers in the half-year ending June 30, 1850, upwards of one-half rode in the parliamentary trains. These returns are, at least, cheering; but with respect to the above interest of 4*%* per cent., amounting to an annual charge of 2,020,334*l.*, we imagine it might be considerably reduced in the present state of the money market. The rapid accumulation of capital which has lately been taking place, with a great dearth of legitimate speculations for investment, renders money obtainable on *bona fide* securities at a very much lower rate—probably, 3*%* per cent.; and an increase of 700,000*l.* or 800,000*l.* a year in direct income would make some little show in the amount of dividend. It is probable the rate of money was never more easy to the borrower than at present; everything has for months past tended, and is still tending, to produce marked changes in the position of the capitalist. With an increase in the quarter's revenue of upwards of 500,000*l.* over the same period of last year, an addition to the value of our exports for the same period of nearly 400,000*l.*, an unprecedented amount of bullion in the Bank, and every prospect of another abundant harvest, all combine to show the immense amount of wealth in operation in this country; and yet a large proportion of capital is unemployed, and may be obtained at very low interest. Among all these cheering instances of national success, speculation in railways is by no means on the increase. Confidence in them does not seem to revive; and it will probably be years before they are looked upon as that stable channel for investment in which it is safe to venture largely. A few years of such improvement as is described above, with a strict adherence on the part of directors to liberal, but careful, management, and the exercise of judicious economy, will do much to reinstate this description of property in public favour, and establish it on a firm and permanently profitable basis.

canals and mineral waters, which were natural products, arising within the parish, and rendering the land in which they were situate more valuable. It appears, from a return made to Parliament, that for the land occupied by the London and North-Western Company, in the counties of Middlesex, Herts, Bucks, Northampton, Warwick, and Worcester, which was previously assessed to the poor at an annual value of 2445*l.*, contributing the 15*th* part of the rates of the parishes through which it passes, the railway company are rated at 128,007*l.*, and pay one-third of the total rates; and the author says—

It is obvious that the framers of the Parochial Assessment Act did not contemplate the application by parish officers and magistrates of the test prescribed by that statute for ascertaining the rateable value of an hereditament, to property which derives four-fifths of its value from sources independent of the land itself. It is equally certain that the Legislature, in renewing from time to time the statute, which, since 1840, has specially enfranchised stock in trade from the poor's rate, has not contemplated its continued assessment in the hands of railway companies, which now practically takes place.

The pamphlet will be read with interest and profit to all interested in railways; and we conclude with one more extract:

It is sought to rate to the relief of the poor, as occupiers of land, under 43d Eliz., an unrepresented, non-resident, commercial corporation, who entail no burdens on the parish, contribute greatly to its wealth, and have no voice in its affairs. The parish officers take the gross earnings of the railway, subtract the expenditure, and guess at the rate. The company appeals, and the Quarter Sessions doubtless decide, subject to the opinion of the next tribunal. The Court of Queen's Bench has hitherto refused to lend its assistance to parish officers and magistrates in this emergency. It remains for the Legislature to do that which neither vestries nor Quarter Sessions can accomplish; and by defining the duties of both, in respect to the rateability of property in which the real and personal elements are combined, to relieve a class of the community now confessedly subjected to the alternative of costly litigation, or to the endurance of local burdens, assessed on principles un sanctioned by the laws of England.

In our two last numbers we adverted to the deplorable position of the COMPANY OF COPPER MINERS IN ENGLAND. The property, as will be seen in last week's Journal, was offered for sale at the Auction Mart on the 26th July, but no bid being made it was withdrawn; consequently affairs remain in *status quo*, as anterior to the auction. Mr. LOUD, one of the dissentient shareholders, on that day presented a notice, stating that he intended to try the validity of the mortgage deed with the Bank of England. This becomes due in October next; on the other hand, the Bank of England have served notice on the securities (several eminent bankers), that unless the mortgage is paid by that time, they will hold them liable for any deficiencies that may arise. We have further heard that, in the event of no arrangement being effected, the furnaces will be destroyed, the bricks sold, the rails and trams torn up, and disposed of for old iron; in short, all available materials sold for what they will fetch. This may be considered a harsh proceeding, but no question as yet has been raised as to its legality; there is no doubt but that the Bank are heartily tired of their bargain, and would be glad to part with it on easy terms, more especially as great doubts have been thrown, not only by dissentient shareholders on their proceeding, but by other parties, as to whether they are not violating their charter by becoming a trading company. Although it has been worked by their agents to a profit, and undoubtedly, could it revert again to the old proprietors, would become a flourishing concern, yet the difficulties which hamper the Bank in their successful prosecution of the undertaking, induce them to retire from it as early and as easily as possible. Twice it has been offered for sale, but whether from the complex nature of the difficulties by which it has been surrounded, fear of litigation, or other causes, it has not found favour in the market, nor at any period has an offer been made for it: in this dilemma, the Bank, being unable to obtain a purchaser, or their money, have determined to have recourse to the property itself. Though this may be legally right, we cannot but contemplate it with feelings of the deepest concern. On the Cwm Avon property alone more than half-a-million sterling has been expended; a small town, with its chapel, inns, shops, cottages, &c., has been built, the inhabitants of the latter are for the most part directly dependent on the works for their subsistence, while the shopkeepers and their families supply the superintendents and labourers; so that, in fact, a population of above 2000 inhabitants depends directly, or indirectly, on the continuance or suspension of these works. If we take merely into consideration their stoppage for a week, or even a day, the amount of distress which must ensue is frightful to contemplate: but when we think that there is a possibility of the whole property being destroyed, root and branch, we cannot compare it to aught else than one of those wholesale evictions we read of in the sister country, but which, happily, have hitherto been unknown amongst us; and we trust that some means may yet be found to avert this fearful calamity, which, if carried out, would cause the greatest ruin and direst misery to the district, and inflict a blow which would take years to recover.

The erection and extension of these important works has progressed gradually, and the neighbourhood has increased in wealth and prosperity as they have progressed; partial seasons of depression have, no doubt, been experienced; people are prepared for a dissolution, when they see a gradual decay, but the blow falls with tenfold force when it occurs while the body is in full vigour and activity. Had the works at Cwm Avon been on the decline, the people would have been prepared, and migrated at different periods to more favoured localities; as it is, should extreme measures be carried out, it will inevitably involve them (without a hope of saving themselves) in the common ruin of the corporation. We have heard rumours that some parties at present in the company wish to obtain the property, if they can do so at a low rate, and get rid of the largest body of the proprietors; that landholders likewise wish to obtain it, and a variety of other crude and undigested reports, which are likely to arise from the present complicated state of affairs. Our belief is, that it would be most desirable that the corporation, who have expended so much capital on it, should again become its possessors; and we trust that, now the common danger is so near at hand, measures will be adopted to sink all differences, and to reconcile the conflicting interests in such a manner as may be compatible with the general safety. Most unfortunate was it that the committee of the House of Commons threw out the bill for the reconstruction of the company; had that been carried, all difficulties would have been obviated, and by this time the corporation placed in a position to proceed with its resuscitation. No time ought to be lost to prevent the threatened evil; whatever is decided upon must be performed promptly and effectually. In whosoever hands the property ultimately falls, we trust that it will remain intact, and continue a spot where cheerful labour, with its concomitant benefits, may long flourish.

The affairs of CAMERON'S COALBROOK STEAM COAL AND SWANSEA AND LOUGHOR RAILWAY COMPANY have long occupied the attention of the public; it may be remembered, that for some time past, the company have been in a very dubious position, owing to several causes, the principal of which appears to have arisen from disputed claims with the CAMERON family. Unfortunately, these evils are not wholly remedied, but would seem to be in a fair course to be arranged, and the directors deserve well of their constituents for the indefatigable exertions and untiring zeal they have displayed in their endeavours to settle the complicated affairs of the association, and resuscitate the company, which at this period last year was threatened with immediate dissolution. Annexed to the account of the meeting, held on Monday last (which will be found in another column), is the report of the directors; from this it will be seen that a great number of their difficulties have been overcome, the most pressing claims against them discharged, and that they are now in a favourable and progressive state of liquidation. Contracts have been entered into to complete the communication between the company's collieries and the port and docks of Llanelli, as the collieries are capable of supplying a large quantity of coal, which has been acknowledged by all who have seen the property. There is not the least doubt but, at no distant period, large and increasing profits will accrue to the shareholders; while from the superior quality of the coal for steam purposes, a large and extended field is opened for their enterprise.

We have to regret in this company, as well as in several others, whose names we might mention were it not foreign to the subject, that there are a number of shareholders who are tenacious of their rights, perfectly willing to participate in all the advantages offered by the speculation, but excessively loath to undertake any of the liabilities which may devolve on them. These gentlemen belong to that class of speculators who are always cheerful and ready to be accounted co-partners in any undertaking when the directors declare dividends, but know nothing of the concern or its prospects when they are likely to make a call—in fact, like the camp followers of an

army.

Judge BEST held the cases were totally different—that the canal, once filled with water, produced profit without further outlay; but the gas must be continually produced, which brought the company down to the standard of any other manufacturer; and Lord TENDERDEN, in the same case, considered that the profits rated were those of a manufactory, obtained by applying the skill and industry of man to capital brought from a distance for that purpose. They were very different from the profits of

army, they leave their more energetic and honest associates to fight the battle; if a victory is achieved, they are most eager for the plunder, and if a defeat should unfortunately take place, they are found to be the earliest flying from the scene of carnage. It has been said, discretion is the better part of valour, and it may be the policy of these individuals who have procrastinated so long to wait a little longer, in the hopes of seeing what the next turn of Fortune's wheel may give them. This, however, is manifestly unfair to those who have borne the brunt of the action, and advanced the capital to place the company in its present favourable position; no more money can be expected from them until the defaulters have paid up the amount of their last call, and the directors would be wanting in their duty to themselves, and those who had so nobly stood by them in their difficulties, did they not immediately take all legal measures to enforce the call, or, in default of payment, have recourse to such measures as they are authorised by the Deed of Settlement; for we presume they have one, as in all other companies constituted as they are.

That we should be "just before we are generous," is a truism which we believe no one will venture to deny, and were any leniency shown to those who have not answered their calls, it would be a gross act of injustice to those who have honourably fulfilled their engagements. The works completed, returns would be made, and there is no doubt a remunerative dividend would be declared on the capital expended. We regret that the harmony of the meeting, which was almost unanimous, should have been disturbed by a gentleman, who, by his position and name, should have been interested in the well-being of the company. Language was used which was anything but parliamentary, provoked by the ungracious conduct of a CAMERON, from whom, at least, we should have expected better things, bound up as the interests of his family are with those of the company.

The company have the fairest prospects before them—from impending ruin they have been spared by the exertions of their directors, and it now only remains for the shareholders, energetically, to support them, to render the property one of the most prosperous concerns in the kingdom. To do this, the directors must not, from any mistaken notions of kindness, swerve from the path they have laid down for themselves; but, without favour or affection, make every man pay his quota, or abide the consequences which may result from his refusal, whether it be caused by obstinacy, neglect, or knavery.

The Scotch Committee of Management of the NORTH BRITISH AUSTRALASIAN COMPANY have at last issued to the shareholders an abstract of the company's financial position at the 30th June, 1849, which was received from the colony five or six months ago. Although we have so frequently alluded to the mode in which the affairs (particularly the mining operations) are conducted, yet we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without some remarks. We observe that the mining property is valued in the assets at the amount that has been expended thereon, less the returns, which, as we noticed before, is not the usual mode of valuing mining property. We believe that the mining captain has reported—years ago—that a very large quantity of ore was laid open, which has been confirmed by other accounts, but we see no allusion to this in the statement. If the committee of management possess (as they ought to do by this time) an estimate of the number of tons, and of the average produce per cent., they would be enabled to give an approximate estimate of the value of the ore discovered: such a statement ought, then, to be appended in a note, either at the end of the balance-sheet, or under the head of "Mining Property;" although, perhaps, the amount should not be carried out, unless the estimated expense of raising, dressing, and bringing it home, be deducted, which the committee ought by this time to have sufficient data to enable them to arrive at pretty correctly. Let a lesson be taken from the reports and balance-sheets of those experienced in conducting mining companies. If the ore discovered is not an asset, it is time that the question of the prospects of prosecuting the mine was considered. Under the head of "assets," we also observe "balances due by sundry individuals," of which the shareholders should require an explanation, and ask what securities are held for the debts.

The roasted ore sent home we perceive is designated "regulus;" but if the 245 tons, sold at Swansea last week, is any criterion of the produce and value of the 800 tons advised, we can hardly suppose that any experienced person could call it by that name. From the ignorance in metallurgical operations of those who have hitherto conducted the calcining and fusing operations at Kaw-aw, we are inclined to think, that so far from being a regulus, the ore is but little improved under such manipulation.

We are glad to find that the committee of management have had their eyes opened at last; for they state that they have sent out a person, "not only practically acquainted with smelting operations, but also possessed of scientific knowledge and attainments." The proprietors are greatly indebted to Mr. J. H. MURCHISON for the spirited manner in which he exposed this matter, and discussed the mining affairs of the company, in his letter to them last year. It would be well that the committee follow more of his valuable suggestions; and, indeed, we have reason to know that many of the shareholders, who at first may have held back, are now convinced of the soundness of the views expressed by Mr. MURCHISON, and would be glad to have an opportunity of supporting their adoption.

APPROACH OF PATENT REFORM—THE NEW ACT.

The following is a brief abstract of the bill for Amendment of the Law of Copyright of Designs and Inventions, referred to by our correspondent, Mr. Campion, the patent agent, as carrying into effect much of that great reform he has been seeking to secure for inventors—viz., their legitimate right to immediate protection for their property in inventions or designs, at such cost as to render the protection available for the poor as well as the rich inventor; so that the humble artizan, who may be able to produce a great improvement in the arts, shall no longer be deprived of his rights because of his social status, and the community may not lose valuable improvements, by their being carried to the grave with their authors, who prefer to do so rather than see them clandestinely snatched away from them, as they may be under the existing law. This Act, after stating that it is necessary to amend the Law of Copyright and Designs, sets forth:

1. That in future any design being within the provision of the Designs Act, or any invention within the scope of the Patent Laws, may be provisionally registered for one year which may, in certain cases, be extended by the Board of Trade for six months more.

2. That every design or invention thus provisionally registered shall, during the above term, be secured to the registrant with a full protection for his design or invention as if it were completely registered under the present Designs Act, and the Act accord this protection in even larger terms.

3. That during the term of the said provisional registration, neither such registration, nor exhibition thereof, or of any article made in accordance therewith, in any place of exhibition not being gratuitous, or a place of sale, nor in any exhibition allowed by the Board of Trade (the Great Exhibition of 1851, for instance), nor the publication of a descriptive account of such exhibition, shall debar the registrant from patenting his invention, or completely registering his design.

4. That during the continuance of the said provisional registration, the registrant must not sell any articles made according to the registration, or forfeiture thereof will ensue, but he may sell his property right theron.

5. That sculptures be brought within the Designs Act, and ornamental designs in ivory, &c., be under new regulations.

6. That the Board of Trade may extend the term of protection in ornamental designs.

7. That the Board of Trade may make regulations as to registration and provisional registration.

8. That the Registrar may, in certain cases, register a design without requiring a drawing upon production of a specification only, if he shall deem it necessary.

9. That the Registrar's certificate, under this Act, be prima facie evidence of validity.

10. That the books of the Designs-office be subject to certain provisions.

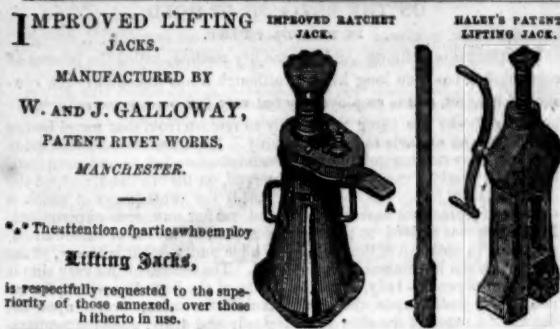
11. That certain provisions of the other Designs Acts be extended to this Act.—The bill then winds up with an interpretation clause, and enacts that, in citing this Act, it shall be sufficient to term it the "Designs Act, 1850."

DINNER TO ROBERT STEPHENSON, Esq., M.P.—A public dinner was given to this gentleman by his friends and admirers in Newcastle and its neighbourhood, to mark their respect for his excellent private character, great talent, and public achievements in engineering science. The dinner took place in the new railway station in Neville-street, and about 400 persons sat down to it. The Hon. Mr. Liddell was in the chair, and the vice-chairs were filled by the Mayors of Newcastle and Gateshead. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, enumerated the many works with which their guest had been connected; from which it appeared that the railways alone to which he had been engineer, amounted to 1850 miles; he particularly alluded to the Britannia Bridge, the High-level Bridge, and the viaduct over the Tweed, as works unequalled in ancient or modern times—paintings of these three structures were exhibited in the apartment. Mr. Stephenson, in returning thanks, bore testimony to the perseverance and skill of those who had been his associates in his labours, and to whom he felt he owed his success. He said it was Lord Havensworth, the father of the chairman, to whom his father was indebted for assistance to enable him to carry out his locomotive experiments, and consequently to his after success in life. Mr. Leman read a letter from the Earl of Carlisle, stating that the Queen and Prince Albert would open the Berwick Railway on the 29th of August.

ANNUAL MINING RETURNS.

The 19th number of the valuable compilation, "Gryll's Annual Mining Sheet," has just been published: from it we give the quantity of copper ores sold in Cornwall and Wales, for 12 months, from June 30, 1849, to June 30, 1850, together with the average price, per ton of 21 cwt., in Cornwall and Wales. We give also the average standard, produce, price, number of tons of ore, fine copper, amount of money, and each company's purchase, for the past 12 months; together with the quantity of copper, tin, zinc, and lead, imported into and exported from the United Kingdom, from the 5th January, 1849, to the 5th January, 1850:—

CORNWALL	Ore.	Price.	Amount.
Agar, Wheal	1198	£4 10 6	£5,491 16 6
Alfred Consols	427	6 13 0	2,842 16 6
Basset, Wheal	3813	7 3 0	27,223 4 0
Bedford United Mines	1438	7 15 0	11,140 15 6
Botallack	24	6 13 0	159 19 0
Buller, Wheal	2082	7 10 0	15,634 1 0
Busy, Wheal	179	3 0 6	540 4 6
Camborne Vein	3110	4 10 6	14,097 10 6
Carn Bras Mines	9947	6 11 6	56,416 8 6
Carthew Consols	83	4 3 0	343 14 6
Charlestown United Mines	339	5 15 0	1,946 9 6
Clifford, Wheal	98	3 13 6	361 10 6
Comfort, Wheal	3057	2 8 0	6,609 6 6
Conduirrow	1449	5 3 0	7,468 1 0
Consolidated Mines	7896	5 9 0	43,010 6 0
Croes Braws	299	4 17 0	1,449 14 6
Devon Great Consols, &c.	15512	6 12 6	102,884 0 6
Dolcoath	1218	5 0 0	6,083 15 0
East Wheal Croft	3275	4 8 0	14,379 3 0
East Pool	1159	3 9 6	4,023 4 6
Ellen, Wheal	322	5 16 0	1,866 17 0
Fowey Consols	6081	6 3 0	37,405 3 0
Friendship, Wheal	2390	7 15 0	18,542 16 0
Gonamena	103	8 19 0	921 15 0
Grambler and St. Aubyn	274	4 7 6	1,198 1 6
Hawk's Point	44	4 17 6	214 2 6
Henry, Wheal	678	5 11 0	3,757 19 6
Holmehurst	547	4 17 6	2,672 7 6
Jewel, Wheal	129	3 14 0	477 7 6
Levant	2572	5 12 6	14,460 8 0
Maiden, Wheal	185	4 14 6	874 2 0
Mark's Valley	1440	3 1 0	4,377 15 6
Mary, Wheal	1426	4 10 0	6,426 19 6
Mary Consols, Wheal	194	3 11 6	695 7 6
North Pool	6509	4 1 6	26,583 11 0
North Roscar	5485	5 3 6	28,420 6 0
Par Consols	7031	6 0 0	42,115 6 0
Penhalo, Wheal	137	5 8 0	736 12 6
Perran St. George	1226	5 2 6	6,292 2 0
Phoenix Mines	341	11 6 0	3,887 2 6
Pisk, Wheal	302	4 1 6	1,230 19 6
Polberrow Mines	63	11 11 0	727 3 6
Poldice	886	4 17 6	4,312 1 6
Prideaux Wood	67	3 16 0	254 15 0
Prosper, Wheal	84	2 14 0	227 0 6
Prudence, Wheal	32	2 9 0	78 8 0
Richard's Ore	91	2 18 0	263 16 6
Seton, Wheal	5721	4 8 6	25,337 4 0
South Cadron	3020	7 3 0	21,621 7 6
South Crinnis	92	5 5 0	483 2 6
South Wheal Fortune	259	5 11 0	1,439 2 0
South Wheal Frances	2253	8 19 0	19,254 18 0
South Roscar	520	3 14 0	1,928 16 0
South Tolgas	1387	7 15 6	9,620 2 0
St. Aibyn and Gryll's	80	5 7 6	429 4 0
Sundry small mines	750	5 2 0	3,832 10 6
Tincroft	5974	3 10 6	20,983 11 0
Treliggy Consols	1289	4 11 0	5,860 15 0
Tremayne, Wheal	1306	3 9 6	4,539 3 0
Trenwith, Wheal	32	4 2 6	132 0 0
Treasvean	3178	3 4 0	10,131 3 6
Tretellian	1325	2 12 0	3,446 8 6
Treviske	2578	7 5 0	18,711 0 0
Tywarnhayle	5784	3 14 0	21,422 19 6
United Mines	11940	4 3 6	49,839 16 6
Vryyann, Wheal	326	3 17 6	1,266 5 0
Wellington Mines	796	5 19 6	4,748 13 6
West Cadron	3669	7 17 6	31,294 13 0
West Fowey Consols	452	5 18 0	2,668 15 0
West Wheal Jewel	384	4 7 6	1,680 4 0
West Wheal Seton	677	5 2 0	3,458 17 0
West Wheal Treasury	1448	6 4 0	8,960 7 6
West Trethellan	259	3 5 6	849 16 6
WALES.			
Aberdovey	79	6 13 6	528 3 6
Australian	65	14 19 6	973 5 6
Ballymurtagh	865	3 6 6	2,872 2 6
Berehaven	6897	7 19 0	50,924 4 6
Burra Burra	3420	24 14 6	84,593 16 0
Cabral	183	11 1 6	2,028 12 0
Chill	34	42 13 6	1,451 7 0
Cobre	17517	14 3 6	248,107 8 0
Copiapo	874	23 10 0	20,647 2 6
Cuba	3431	10 16 6	37,173 15 6
Dudley Slag	186	1 14 6	267 5 0
Gascogne Slag	104	1 14 6	179 16 0
Guildford Slag	302	3 8 6	1,028 18 0
Gurnadyne	84	6 4 0	520 12 6
Kapunda	659	21 18 0	14,429 0 0
Kaw-sw	307	10 2 6	3,111 11 0
Knockmashon	3254	6 1 0	19,655 3 6
Lackmore	179	7 8 6	1,328 8 0
Laxey	47	3 17 6	182 2 6
Santiago	1922	12 8 0	23,816 5 0
South Australian	38	18 0 6	884 19 0
Sundry small mines	727	5 2 0	3,714 12 0
Waterloo Slag	111	1 5 0	139 7 6
PARTICULARS OF COPPER ORES SOLD IN CORNWALL,			
FROM JUNE 30, 1849, TO JUNE 30, 1850.			
Copper ores	150,890—21 cwt.		
Fine copper	11,824 tons 0 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs.		


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RELIANCE MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

A general meeting of members of this society took place at the offices, King William-street, City, on Tuesday, the 30th July.

HENRY T. PRINSER, Esq., in the chair.

The accounts were submitted and approved, and the retiring directors were re-elected.

It appeared from the report, that the premiums on new business, for the 12 months, were 2010*l.*, making, with renewal premiums, 8750*l.*, including proposals under consideration on the 30th June, and since completed, nearly 9000*l.* The funds of the society had been further improved by the receipt of 11222*l.* 18*s.* for dividends, interest, and fees on loans. Only one claim had arisen during the present year, which had been duly paid; but the directors continue to reserve the difference between the estimated and actual amount of claims, to meet any adverse fluctuation of mortality. The expenses were noticed as upon the lowest scale compatible with the due efficiency of the establishment, and the improvements in the general funds of the society for the year pointed out as 5830*l.*, after the payment of all outgoings, notwithstanding the reduction in respect of bonuses, declared in 1847 and in the present year.

The report was unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed to the directors, for the able and judicious manner in which the affairs of the society had been conducted.—A vote of thanks was also passed to the medical and other offices, when the business of the meeting, which was very respectfully attended, terminated.

EASTERN UNION RAILWAY COMPANY.

A special general meeting of shareholders in this company was held at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on Friday, the 2d inst., for the purpose expressed in the circular convening the meeting.

S. BIGWOLD, Esq., took the chair, in the absence of J. C. Cobbold, Esq., who was unavoidably detained in Suffolk.

Mr. SAUNDERS (the secretary) read the following circular:

Ipswich, July 26.—The directors of this company having obtained an Act to enable them to pay off mortgage debt (which Act was submitted to the shareholders during the progress of the Bill through Parliament, and obtained their approval), purpose at the special meeting, advertised for the 2nd proximo, to submit for discussion the resolutions annexed hereto. The directors believe, that with the power which these resolutions would confer on them, they may readily redeem a portion of the debt, and reduce materially the interest on the remaining borrowed capital. The "Eastern Debenture Union Shares" have privileges attached to them which cannot fail to obtain the favour of the public when known and duly appreciated, and their issue on favourable terms must produce a corresponding and beneficial influence upon the remainder of the preference and the ordinary capital of the company. With these views the directors have determined to lose no time in proposing the measure for your sanction.—JAMES F. SAUNDERS, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted, *seriatim*, the following resolutions, which, after a short and friendly discussion, were all passed unanimously:

1. That it is the opinion of this meeting that the whole sum which this company may have borrowed, or may have power to borrow on mortgage or bond, should as soon as possible be permanently reduced, so that the total amount of mortgage debt outstanding may not exceed 350,000*l.*

2. That the directors, for the purpose of giving effect to this resolution, be authorised to create, under the powers of an Act obtained in the present Session of Parliament, "Eastern Union Debenture Shares," and to raise thereby from time to time, as may be required, and pay into the Bank of England, or into such other bank as may be determined upon, in conformity with the Act, a sum not exceeding 265,000*l.*, or about one-half of the present borrowed money.

3. That the shares be of a nominal amount, not exceeding 10*l.* each share, and that the amount, and time of the deposit, and of calls thereon, be fixed by the directors, so that each payment be entitled to a rate of interest from the date thereof, not exceeding 4*l* per cent. if issued in perpetuity, or 5 per cent. if redeemable within 15 years, and that the directors be at liberty to issue the shares, under whichever of these conditions they may deem most advantageous to the credit and interest of the company.

4. That every holder of a mortgage or bond now due, or to become due on or before 1st January, 1851, be offered payment of it in the proportion of one-half its amount by "debenture shares," and one-half in a new mortgage, and that all bond-holders be invited by circular to inform the directors prior to the 30th September next of their intentions with reference to the liquidation or renewal of such mortgages or bonds, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made prior to the 31st December, 1850, for paying off bond-holders who may dissent therefrom.

Mr. CAYLEY proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, which was seconded by Mr. Brown, and passed unanimously.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.—The directors have declared a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, the accounts showing also a surplus of 1743*l.* to be carried to profit and loss, new account. The customers' balances held on the 30th of June amounted to 1,842,723*l.*; the capital was 221,360*l.*; and the reserved fund was 31,585*l.*

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—The usual half-yearly meeting of this company was held yesterday at Lothbury. Of the 23 shareholders, comprising the entire company, very few attended, and as the meeting was, for some reason or another, of a STRICTLY PRIVATE NATURE, we are unable, on this occasion, to afford our readers any information as to the proceedings.

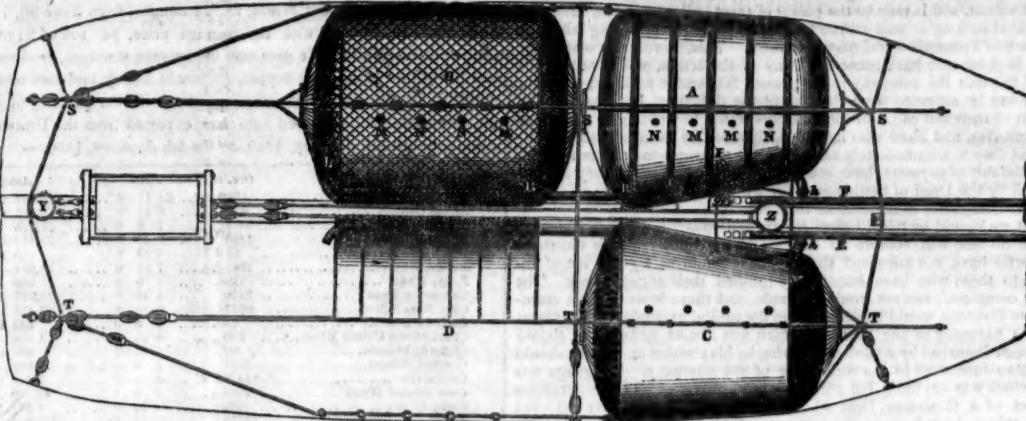
NEW TELEGRAPHIC DICTIONARY.—A French paper, the *Presse*, gives some account of experiments made at the house of M. de Girardin, with a new telegraphic dictionary, the invention of M. Gonon. Despatches, in French, English, Portuguese, Russian, and Latin, including proper names of men and places, and also figures, were transmitted and translated, says this account, with a rapidity and fidelity alike marvellous, by an officer who knew nothing of any one of the languages used except his own. Dots, commas, accents, and breaks were all in their proper places. This dictionary of M. Gonon is applicable alike to electric and to aerial telegraphy, to transmissions by night and by day, to maritime and to military telegraphing.—The same paper speaks of the great interest excited in the European capitals by the approaching experiment of submarine telegraphic communication between England and France.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF AERONAUTICAL STEERING OVERCOME.—Capt. Taggard made a balloon ascent at Lowell, with his flying machine attached. He was up one hour and a half, travelled about 75 miles, and showed himself over Dracut, Tewksbury, Haverhill, Reading, Andover, Danvers, Ipswich, Georgetown, Lawrence, Methuen, Salem, and other towns; he went some distance out to sea. On his way back to Lowell, at Middleton the gear went, his flying machine broke. Had not this accident happened, he would have landed in or near Lowell, where he started from.—*Boston Post*.

AN AMERICAN SPECULATION.—A letter from New York announces that the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, of which Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall are the representatives, have declared a dividend of fifty per cent.—the first one declared. This company started, we believe, with a capital not exceeding 120,000*l.* sterling. It has since purchased the steam-ships *Unicorn*, *Tennessee*, *Cherokee*, and *Philadelphia*, for which there must have been paid all of 140,000*l.* sterling. This fact, considered in connection with the dividend above mentioned, will afford some idea of the profits secured to American capitalists by exertion and enterprise.

PEAT CHARCOAL.—At a meeting lately held in Dublin, Dr. Bevan remarked that he had witnessed the most extraordinary results produced by the peat manufactured into charcoal by Mr. J. W. Rogers. Mr. Rogers has upwards of 700 persons employed in one of the western districts of Ireland manufacturing the common, and apparently useless, bog into this valuable charcoal, a small quantity of which is quite enough to disinfect, and in fact subdue, the most offensive vapours or gas.

ANOTHER BAD LEG CURED BY HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Extract of a letter from Mr. James Townley, of No. 1, Catherine-street, Poplar New Town, dated July 22, 1850.—"To Professor Holloway—Sir: A sense of gratitude, as well as a wish to benefit the afflicted, induces me to publicly acknowledge the excellent care you give your ointment and ointment have effected of my bad leg, with two wounds in it, with which I had suffered upwards of three years, and which it was found impossible to heal, until I fortunately tried your medicines, which soon gave me relief, and now I have as sound a leg as any man can desire.—Sold by all vendors of medicine, and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 244, Strand, London."

NEW METHOD OF BALLASTING SHIPS.


A plan for ballasting ships by the use of water has been patented by David Blair White, M.D., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which, as far as giving facilities for loading or removal when required, and possessing numerous other advantages over the ordinary ballast, bids fair to open out an entire new practice in this important branch of navigation. The specification is very long, and it is illustrated by nine diagrams; but, with the aid of the accompanying one, we think we shall be able fully to describe the details of the operations to our readers. The figure is a plan of part of the hold of a vessel, with three receivers placed therein ready for ballasting it. These bags are made of double canvas, rendered air and water-tight by means of India-rubber, or gutta-percha, or other solution or material fit for the purpose, and in some cases lined with gutta-percha, or a compound thereof, and coated on the outside with coal-tar, or some other substance capable of repelling vermin. These bags are then covered with a strong canvas casing, and over that again a rope netting, which is surrounded with an outer covering of canvas, or tarpaulin, open at each end. A, B, C, are three of these ballast or cargo bags, which are made double, having a partition placed transversely across the centre. At D, the fourth is represented covered with the outer tarpaulin. A shows the water-proof bag or receiver; B, the bag with case and netting over; C, the bag complete, with its case, netting, and outer covering. E and F are two feed-pipes, running one on each side of the keel-plate, and communicating at the head with the water in which the vessel floats, where are two stop-cocks, which may be made to open and close only in the captain's cabin, or any other part of the vessel. I, J, K, and L are branch flexible hose, sewn into the bags, A, B, at one end, and communicating with the pipe, F, at the other, to which they are attached by a socket. M and N are four air-pipes, sewn into the bags for the escape of air while the bag is filling. Two of the bags are placed on each side of the keelson. The *modus operandi* is as follows:—The water in which the ship floats being admitted by opening the tap of the pipe, F, it is allowed to flow through the branch hose, I and J, and into the bags, A and B, the same operation being performed with respect to the bags, C and D, and the water allowed to flow until the vessel has obtained the required line of floatation, and she is then ballasted, when the taps to the supply-pipes must be closed. To prevent the flow of water through the hose when it is required to stop it, the patentee makes use of what he terms a nip, being a jointed instrument similar to a pair of nut-cracks, and furnished with a ring, by which, after the nip is placed across the hose, this ring is pressed towards the extremity, which closes the nip, and forms a water-tight joint. The bags are secured by means of ropes fastened to the fore and mainmasts, Y and Z, and by the cross-ropes, S and T. It will be readily seen that by letting in more or less water to the bags, or, if necessary, having recourse to the pump to lighten them, the vessel may be trimmed in any manner required; and, if leaning on one side, may be brought to a level keel with the greatest nicety. The patentee proposes, that were there is a liquid cargo, such as wines, spirits, &c., it should be stowed in these ballast bags; or the spirits, wine, water, &c., for the ship's use, might be applied, instead of floatage water, and thus make more room for stowage. Or rice, seeds, or other grain might be stowed in them, proper arrangements being made for discharging them. The pump which the patentee proposes to make use of differs from the ordinary ship's pump; the main body or barrel of the pump is divided about half-way down its length into two channels, or a branch is rather carried downwards from the main channel; the working barrel, with its bucket, or suction clack, is placed at the lower end instead of the upper, as is usual in the common lifting pump, by which arrangement it is never necessary to lift the water to the deck, which will save much time and labour,—for the water, being lifted in the barrel only as high as the level of the water outside the ship, will find its way through the branch, and flow into the sea, or water of floatation.

In another modification of this pump the branch opens out directly through the bottom of the vessel. It is provided with a stop-cock, which, as in the supply-pipe, may be made to be acted on only from the captain's cabin, or any other part of the ship. For the purpose of preventing the choking of the pump by sand, rubbish, or other foreign matter, there is a rod passes down the outside of the barrel, having a lever at top, and a blade at the lower end; by agitating which such matter may be removed, and the rod may be lifted out of its place when not required. Another and an important use of these bags, or receivers, is, that in cases of danger of the sinking of the vessel, the bags may be at once emptied, and nips put upon all the air-hose; the rope fastens at top, bottom, and sides, keeping them extended; and thus being to a certain extent, filled with air, they will act as buoyant caissons, to keep the vessel afloat.

The claims are for the ballasting and stowing the cargoes of ships by means of flexible air and water-bags; secondly, the arrangement of bags, pipes, hose, ropes, tackle, taps, nips, and pumps, as described; and, lastly, the forked pump, as applied to the emptying the said bags, but which is equally applicable as an improved ship's pump.

VALUABLE MINERAL DISCOVERIES IN INDIA.—In the Calcutta papers of the 5th June, there is an official notice, from Mr. Vincent, a deputy magistrate, announcing the discovery of copper, lead, and iron ore at Deoghar, near Beerbhum, in the great table land which extends from near Burdwan to Dunwra Ghaut, in Behar. The existence of the veins was made known as a great secret by a Baunia about a year ago, the first visit being made to it, by stipulation, at dead of night. Granite, sienite, and gneiss, traversed by greenstone veins, are the prevailing rocks around—the usual matrices of copper and lead veins all over the world. Near the vein is a mountain torrent, which dries up in the fair season. The surface is undulating, and the drainage seems easy. The metals do not appear ever to have been worked or made use of. The vein at the surface runs east and west, and has been traced for hundred feet continuously; the metal is partly pure, partly in the form of green carbonate. Veins of lead ore, partly pure, partly in the state of galena or sulphure, traverse the principal vein at right angles. Both have been analysed, and found of remarkable richness. The lead contains 98 per cent. of pure metal, the copper 84, and the metallic lead 50. The whole question of the value of the discovery consists in the expense of raising the ores and converting them into metal. The nearest coal is 40 miles off, and the nearest point on the river where the ore could be shipped to Calcutta is 60 miles distant, with a tolerable road all the way. The experiment, it was hoped, will be tried by the Government, as there was little probability of confidence being reposed in a joint-stock company, and for a private individual the undertaking would be too expensive.

The refinery formerly established in the Mint, under the conduct of Dr. O'Shaughnessy, and subsequently suppressed because it was thought unprofitable, had been re-instituted; its object is to eliminate the gold known to be a constituent in sycee silver. The Electric Telegraph Committee was busy at work. A large house had been engaged as its office, and the whole was expected to be in operation very soon. The line reaches to Houghly.

The *Calcutta Star* states that Mr. Simms has sent in a report, on the requisition of Lord Dalhousie, on the subject of the railway. It advocates a single line along the trunk road, by which, starting from Calcutta, the railway could (for 1,000,000*l.*) be carried at least as far as the heart of the Beerbhum coal-field, and thus be enabled to aid a traffic of importance to the metropolis.

RAILWAY CALLS FOR AUGUST.

The total amount of railway calls for the month of August this year, so far as they have at present been advertised, is only 195,936*l.*—of which 22,211*l.* is for a foreign company,—being much the smallest sum required from shareholders in any month during the last three years. The sum called for in August, 1849, was 1,154,527*l.*; in the corresponding month of 1848, 3,122,773*l.*; and in 1847, 2,286,859*l.* For the first eight months of the present year the total calls amount to only 8,890,920*l.*, against 15,809,161*l.* in the corresponding period of 1849; 25,753,019*l.* in the first eight months of 1848; and 29,681,079*l.* in 1847.

The subjoined table shows the amount of calls in each month of the present, and last three years:

	1850.	1849.	1848.	1847.
Due in January	£1,830,818	£3,926,342	£6,157,863	
February	1,036,709	2,354,541	2,272,541	1,393,026
March	1,387,679	2,379,790	3,135,923	3,508,065
April	302,543	884,249	2,759,795	4,314,955
May	1,093,990	1,071,088	3,246,848	3,440,675
June	563,445	773,772	2,277,674	3,213,481
July	2,479,922	3,344,852	4,077,246	5,366,155
August	195,936	1,154,527	3,122,773	2,286,859
September	—	865,054	2,625,936	4,161,934
October	—	1,686,749	1,693,655	3,762,342
November	—	755,826	1,691,629	2,042,718
December	—	576,904	1,496,010	2,423,820
Total	—	£19,673,694	£33,260,249	£42,071,958

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE STOCK AND SHARE MARKET, DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

Stocks and Shares.	Share.	Paid.	Pr. July 1.	Highest.	Lowest.	July 31
Consols	—	—	96 <i>l</i>	97	96 <i>l</i>	97
Exchequer Bills	—	—	67 <i>l</i> to 70 <i>l</i>	70 <i>l</i> pm.	67 <i>l</i> to 70 <i>l</i>	70 <i>l</i> pm.
Brighton	Stock.	£100	£53 <i>l</i>	£24 <i>l</i>	£79	70 <i>l</i> pm.
Caledonian	50	50	5			

Original Correspondence.

MINING PLANS AND SECTIONS.

SIR.—I am very glad to find that the few hints I have made on this subject have been received in a proper spirit, and that there is some prospect of its being more generally attended to in future. I could name several mines in Cornwall where plans and sections are kept up with great regularity, but in consequence of the majority being defective, it would be too invidious to particularise. I trust the observations of your correspondent, Mr. Symons, will have due effect, and that he will be the means, by his useful maps, of introducing more correct and systematic plans and sections into all the mining offices of Cornwall. It would be to the interest of legitimate mining to patronise the labours of Mr. Symons; the mines that cannot afford to pay a few pounds for a complete set of plans and sections for laying down the workings as they progress, are as unworthy of notice as a vessel going to sea without a chart and compass. Besides, instead of being an economy in saving the expense of a set of plans and sections, it is a very wasteful and uncertain mode of working, and many hundreds of pounds are thrown away for the want of them.

I presume there are but few persons who would purchase a piece of land without a map of the property, or, at least, trace the boundary, and obtain the title for it. In mining these essential preliminaries are often neglected. A loose report of the "kindly appearances" of the "country" is often sufficient to induce distant capitalists to invest their money in the speculation, without any knowledge whatever of the extent and real boundary of the seat. Committee-men are, it is true, morally responsible to the public that all is right before starting; however, for the want of a more uniform and established system of getting official maps prepared and examined beforehand, the committee are often as ignorant with respect to the real state of the mining property as the distant capitalists; and the whole affair too often remains as a mysterious subterranean world, where its inhabitants are employed to fish for treasures, and the local dealers watch for the prizes.

To get over some of these difficulties, the capitalists are often under the necessity of applying to, and sending for, other mine agents to inspect the mine for them. Conceive a man going into great mines like the Devon Great Consols, the Great Consols, Carn Brea, Tincroft, &c., without referring to and being guided by their plans and sections. How could he form a judgment of the value of the property by merely looking at the ends, &c., and no opportunity of measuring the extent of the reserve stores and unproductive ground? Let the captain be the very best practical man that could be found, I maintain that he cannot form a correct opinion of the value of any extensive mine by a mere visit, without the aid of plans and sections; therefore, if "old hands" cannot make a "guess" that can be depended upon, the reports of persons employed for that purpose who have had no practical experience whatever in such matters must be a mockery. Those that are led to invest their money in mining from mere reports on the indications of the lodes, without any other security, will be ignorant of the real character of the properties, and be at the mercy of jobbers and their instruments; and those who trust their capital to such mode of proceeding must be deceived, and have themselves to blame.

July 30.
EVAN HOPKINS.

ON THE SMELTING OF RICH IRON ORES.

SIR.—Your correspondent from Ulverston is quite correct in his remarks on the smelting of rich iron ores. The process of iron making in Great Britain has been established from ancient usages, confined to poor minerals, the routine kept up, and improved by accidents and individual instinct, with few exceptions, and not from the study of chemistry or metallurgy. In consequence of our blast-furnaces being generally made to suit the reduction of the refractory ironstone of the carboniferous basin, they are not well adapted to smelt the fusible rich iron ore alone. The common ironstone contains a large proportion of silica, which must be separated and reduced by a very strong blast into a silicate of lime, with an excess of calcareous flux, especially when magnesia, phosphates, &c., are present. The boshes must be made at a suitable angle to sustain the burden of the above, so as to ensure a complete decomposition, without waste, and also carburetted the iron for fusion.

The rich iron ore, being much more fusible and pure, requires different treatment and less flux: nevertheless it can, and is, reduced alone into good cast-iron, in high furnaces, and into wrought-iron direct by the Catalan method. Some years ago I was consulted on this subject abroad, where a new furnace was much damaged in consequence of its being overcharged with rich ore. The boshes and the hearth having been made according to the ordinary manner and form used in England and Wales, I found, by several experiments, and varying the blast from 1½ to 2½ lbs. per inch, that we could only use one of rich ore to two of the ironstone. The founder was an old hand, and an excellent routine man, but totally at a loss when he came to reduce new materials; therefore, he had to be instructed to vary his system according to the character of the materials used, and in a very short time he found that the richest ores could be reduced alone by proper management. The rich carbonates, and the oxides, are smelted alone with charcoal on the continent, and likewise, in many places, with clean good coke, producing iron of very superior quality—

from mottled to strong dark grey. It is commonly supposed that, because sulphur is volatile when exposed to heat, it will entirely fly off from the materials at the tunnel head. This is a great mistake. Sulphurites of iron are very susceptible of fusion into masses, and, unless decomposed by fluxes, perfect desulphurisation cannot take place, and the metal will be liable to become contaminated. However small the quantity of sulphur may be in the materials employed, if its affinity for iron is not neutralised by double decomposition, it will deteriorate the quality of the produce. To correct the evil to a certain degree, the coke is sometimes sprinkled over with a solution of lime; by this means a portion of the sulphurite is converted into a sulphate of lime. The iron is found to improve also by adding common salt, and other ingredients, to the charges, effecting a more perfect decomposition, and forming a sulphate of soda. Another method may be introduced with advantage to clear the coke—viz.: discharge the red-hot coke into iron tanks, and envelope it with steam. The sulphurite and the steam will be decomposed into sulphuret of hydrogen, which will evolve, and the oxide of iron left as a residue; the coke is thus rendered much cleaner. Every provision should be made to reduce and to avoid the formation of a sulphuret of iron in the furnace. These remarks are founded on observations made about 20 years ago in working some of the largest furnaces in the kingdom.—EVAN HOPKINS: London, Aug. 1.

THE USE OF IRON ORES.

SIR.—I congratulate the Cleator Iron Company on the intelligence of their "Keeper." If every office is filled with a proportional grade of capacity, I am not surprised that they have at last solved the hitherto difficult problem of working successfully a burden of rich ore on the coke furnace. I am glad it is accomplished; for numberless have been the furnaces set fast by the experiment. About a year since, I had a conversation with one of the principal mineowners at Whitehaven, who narrated a very different aspect of the difficulties which had beset the attempt—in fact, it was a repetition of the old and well-known perplexities. I quite agree with the "Keeper" that, *prima facie*, I know no conclusive reason why a pure ore should not be as manageable in the furnace as a less pure mineral.

My remarks were not addressed to what might or ought to be done, but to the prevailing practice and notions which would have to be overthrown before Mr. Poole's views could take effect. It does certainly appear reasonable that the addition of just as much suitable earthy matter as is necessary to neutralise the earthy mixture of the ore, ought to produce a successful smelting; and it has occurred that my attention has been particularly called to the subject during the present summer. The first bold stand made against the prevailing views was by Mr. Heath, at his works at Porto Novo, near Madras. The Woods iron ore which he used is a magnetic iron sand, from which every particle of the silicious matrix can be separated by mechanical means; and the purer the ore that was thus smelted, the more steadily was the furnace found to work. So entirely new was the production of iron from the blast-furnace, without the presence of a vitreous slag, that Mr. Heath included the process as a part of the patent which I have lately commented on; and the novelty of this claim was confirmed by the jury, and not impugned by the judges. One objection, habitually made to a rich burden, is that it produces red-short iron, but there is that tendency in all primary ores, however diluted; and when it was subsequently attempted to remove this feature from the Porto Novo iron, by introducing the common practice of fluxing, it had no success, but entailed additional expense and irregularity. If the furnace can

be kept open with pure oxide of iron, there ought, by parity of reasoning, to be no greater difficulty with all the proportions of earthy mixture intervening from that point up to the lean ironstones, in neutralising that admixture by corresponding doses of the proper flux. I am much of opinion that the failures which have established the prevailing opinion may have arisen, as the "Keeper" asserts, from the fluxes being improperly chosen, and from an unsuitable construction of furnace. "Keeper" must know well how difficult it is to change the habits of an iron-work. The absence of some trifling modification, which a little perseverance would discover, is quite sufficient to procure a sentence of condemnation. I know instances where the finest specular ores of iron have been condemned as rubbish, from which no iron could be extracted, and that at works which habitually used in mixture the red oxides from the carboniferous limestone. What but defective treatment could have attained such a conclusion? The old narrow hearth and the flat bosh, which concentrates the force of the blast against the descending metal, are, no doubt, most improper for such ores; and it is in these aboriginal structures that there have been the most failures in their use. A hearth, even wider than is now adopted, and steep boshes, the invaluable invention of Mr. John Gibbons, which "Keeper" appears to have the benefit of, ought to produce a different result.

The necessity of a large flow of cinder to protect the iron in its descent from being decarbureted by the blast has been assigned as one requirement of the greater heat of the coke-furnace. Yet iron is melted with coke in the foundry cupola without such loss of carbon, in the absence of any vitreous protection. If the furnace is so constructed as to afford the greatest scope for deoxidation in the upper region, the ore properly fluxed according to its earthy constituents, the filling adequately arranged so as to retard the passage of the cemented ore to the centre of the furnace, until it drops fully prepared into the cavity of the hearth which is being constantly formed by the destruction of the coke, and the blast so diffused that it may yield the heat necessary to liquify the iron in the proper region, and no more, I cannot see why the metal should not fall uninjured into the hearth beneath constantly and regularly, and an injurious degree of temperature be avoided, without the necessity of enveloping the coke in a vitrified coating of twice its own weight. Add to this, such arrangements as from time to time will suggest themselves to the observation of an intelligent manager, full of resources, I can perceive no insuperable obstacles to success. I believe the presence of a liquid stratum of cinder between the surface of the iron and the level of the tuyères will always continue to be a great advantage. It protects the exposed surface of stationary metal, affords a fusing receptacle for the drops and falling masses to shelter in, and, as I explained in your Journal of November last, it materially economises the agencies of combustion, throwing their effects upwards where they are most required. But a very small proportion of earthy matter is sufficient for this end, compared with the enormous constant flow from the present blast-furnace.

Where there is much sulphur in the coal, a larger quantity of lime is required to neutralise it, as explained by Mr. Mitchell, in his paper on metallurgy, for we know the sulphur in coal is very tenacious, and far from being expelled in coking. This is probably one of the greatest disadvantages, in comparison with wood charcoal, which is presented in smelting rich ores with pit coal. I trust the "Keeper" may continue to carry out his practice uniformly and successfully; the subject is of high interest, and I shall be very glad indeed when I have an opportunity of witnessing his operations at the Cleator Works. Still it is evident, as respects the main purpose of Mr. Poole's paper, that a very unlooked-for reduction in the cost of transport must be attained, before these ores can substitute the local produce of the great iron districts. DAVID MUSSET.

July 30.
FOREIGN TARIFFS ON BRITISH IRON, &c.

SIR.—In your Journal of the 20th July a correspondent endeavoured to draw the attention, not only of the iron-trade, but also of the twist-spinners, to the agitation now so energetically carried on in Germany against the proposed increase of the tariff. Although the high and, in some instances, prohibitory duties on iron, twist, &c., are the leading grievances of continental free-traders, and their partial—not to say total—repeal, the object they are so manfully striving to obtain, yet those interested in the development of these particular branches in this country should not alone be supposed bound in any way to assist their foreign friends in fighting the battle out. The restrictions imposed by foreign tariffs on the commerce of this country act prejudicially on all trades. Abroad, the agriculturist is the principal sufferer—the implements he requires are made so dear by the enormous iron duties, that he must wish for years of famine and general misery, if he will derive a reasonable profit from his labour. The ground that should be used for growing corn lies untilled as a vast waste, whilst the lesser amount of capital employed in the manufacturing interests is privileged beyond all bounds. Scotch pig-iron, now to be had at 45s. per ton at Glasgow, or about 23 groschen per Prussian cwt., pays, in addition to freight, commissions without end, sound dues, &c. (which one would suppose protection enough), an entry duty of 10 groschen per cwt., or 48 per cent.; and this 48 per cent. is sucked from the agriculturists (three-quarters of the whole population), from whom most revenue is derived, to be given to the ironmasters, the coal and timber proprietors, in other words, 48 per cent. is paid by 16 millions for the support of the 70,000 souls, including women and children, whom Mr. Van der Heydt's ministerial organ, the *Reform*, allows to be the total number dependent on the iron-trade of Prussia. Surely, we in this country may very fairly be looked to and called upon for aid,—we who must look to other lands for our necessary sustenance, the basis of all our commerce, for if Germany, by reason of excessive taxation, cannot supply us with cheap corn (her principal export trade to this country), we lose the commodity to be exchanged for our own produce, and our relations of commerce cease, simply because nothing can be offered in exchange for our goods, and as a gift we are not likely to send them; thus both countries suffer! The ironmasters of Germany are for the most part owners of large forests and coal mines, and derive a large portion of their profits from these sources, particularly from the forests, which would have little or no value were they not employed in the manufacture of charcoal iron: to this fact may be attributed a large amount of the opposition to moderate iron duties, and is well worthy the attention also of the timber trade. Our coal trade, too, should find, now that coals and coke from Silesia, and the Prussian province of Saxony, can successfully compete with English, both as to quality and price, even in Berlin, that unless efforts are made to shake the power of foreign protectionist policy, their export trade to these parts will considerably decrease. The movement towards relaxation of duties on the continent, so important also to this country, increases so rapidly in strength and importance, the results already obtained are so unexpectedly favourable, and the prospects so encouraging, that in order to speedily obtain a reform of the Zollverein tariff, through the agency of Prussia (which is by no means so impossible as generally imagined), it only seems necessary to direct the attention of the mercantile body in general to the desirability of seconding now, and at once, by all legitimate means, those who are at present so active abroad in bringing before public notice the injuries sustained by the few being privileged to the prejudice of the many.—A CONSTANT READER: London, July 25.

MINE INSPECTION.

SIR.—The Mr. Blackwell who presided at a meeting held at Newcastle in favour of mine inspection, is the proprietor and editor of the *Newcastle Courant* newspaper, and a member of the Town Council of that town. He has for many years taken a prominent part in promoting the many charitable institutions of the district, and is highly and deservedly esteemed by his fellow-townsmen. His long standing in the town, his great literary attainments, and estimable character, are a sufficient guarantee for the respectability of the meeting, and the integrity of its proceedings.

Neath, July 29.

J. RICHARDSON, C.E.

ON THE CONSUMPTION OF SMOKE.

SIR.—I perceive, from the reports given in your scientific Journal, that the bill, in the House of Commons, for the regulation or consumption of smoke, has met the same fate as the bill did that was brought in last year. In your Journal of the 28th of July last year, you gave a description, with a wood-cut, of the simple means adopted by me for the consumption of smoke and the economy of fuel, at the Patent Wire-rope Works, High-street, Wapping. Since that time I have been engaged in making practical experiments, the result of which is, I have found that any kind of apparatus or machinery is quite unnecessary, provided that the furnace is in proportion to the boiler, and set properly, and the flues are in proportion to the furnace, and properly constructed. I have obtained the data of proportion, after a series of *expensive experiments*, in order to satisfy any

of your scientific readers; and they have my full permission to go to the Patent Wire-rope Works, Wapping, where they can examine and judge for themselves. The consuming apparatus can be shut off, and they will find that the smoke is as perfectly consumed as need be, in consequence of the proper proportions being adopted.

ANDREW SMITH.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, July 29.

WIRE GAUGING.

SIR.—This simple measurement is one of the most backward operations of practical art, though in such frequent and extensive use.

The different sizes are distinguished merely by numbers, without a definite standard, or even a rule of proportion amongst themselves. And so defective is this, in practice, that if we order three bundles of wire, of a given number, from different makers, the chances are that we do not get more than one of them to correspond with our own gauge. Say, for instance, No. 13, which may be considered about $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch diameter; we are likely to get nearly 12, 13, and 14; and they vary almost as much, sometimes, from the same manufacturer.

It is curious that, in these days of watchful improvement, such a frequent imperfection should have been so long overlooked, when admitting of so easy a remedy.

If instead of indefinite numbers, the distinctions were made in fractions of an inch, this would be definite and intelligible; and every workman could test the correctness of his gauge, by winding the wires round a rod, bell-spring wise, and seeing how many turns occupied the inch.

But there was, 17 years since, an accurate and delicate wire gauge published, of which the description and cut are given in Lardner's *Cyclopaedia*, No. 42, the 2d vol., of "Manufactures in Metal," p. 347; which, if brought before practical men, in your columns, might be approved and adopted. It should, however (as there suggested), have two graduated grooves; from $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{15}$ in. for the larger wires; the other, slanting more gradually, from $\frac{1}{15}$ to 0 for the smaller: $\frac{1}{16}$ in. might be No. 1, as it is very nearly, at present; and so the numbers might regularly proceed, in fixed proportions, to wire as fine as hair. This would not only give the numbers everywhere correct and alike, but would show their respective diameters in fractions of an inch, and would even admit of accurate intermediate distinctions, where requisite; and the gauge itself being easier to make entirely true, would so far be less costly: an incorrect gauge often defeats its own purpose.—J. PRIDEAUX: July 31.

COMPANIES PROCEEDING UNDER THE WINDING-UP ACT.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER DIRECT RAILWAY.—A call of 2l. per share is to be made on all shareholders included in the list of contributors, Class 3, in this company, and consisting of those who signed the subscribers' agreement for a certain number of shares, but did not pay the deposit thereon. The shareholders on this list amount to 1500 persons, and the call, if fully paid, is estimated by Mr. Turquand, the official manager, to produce 3000*£*. There are three other lists, representing upwards of 5000 shareholders, upon whom a call will also have to be made, the extent of which has to be determined. The suit in Chancery against the directors for refunding the 40,000*£*. is proceeding, and this, if recovered, will fall in as assets, to be distributed among the shareholders who are now being called upon to pay, and who, in the event of its being obtained, are not likely, it is understood, to be losers.

GLoucester, ABERYSTWITH, AND CENTRAL WALES.—On Saturday, Master Tinney further proceeded with this company's affairs, which had been delayed in consequence of the solicitors, who claim a lien of 5000*£*. upon them, refusing to give up the books and papers to the official manager.

DIRECT BIRMINGHAM, OXFORD, READING, AND BRIGHTON.—On Monday, Master Brougham sat in Vice-Chancellor Wigram's court, to determine on the amount of call to be made on the shareholders in this company included in class 1 and class 3, as liable to contribute a *pro rata* payment to defray outstanding liabilities, estimated by the official manager, Mr. Hutton, at 10,176*£*, in addition to 6749*£* in the shape of disputed claims. Class 1 contained 57 names, consisting of the provisional committee and committee of management, and class 2 of 174 shareholders who paid the deposit on allotment. The court was crowded, all parties in the position of contributors being at liberty to attend, and contest their liability by stating objections. It was originally intended to have taken classes 3 and 4 on the occasion, the lists of which contain upwards of 1500 names, but his Honour intimated that the call upon these classes would abide the result now pending to the court on the question of their liability. Having intimated this in reply to several parties who raised the specific objection, his Honour made the call, and directed a general order to be served, by the official manager, on each contributor to enforce its payment.—On Tuesday, Master Brougham sat in the Vice-Chancellor's Court to consider the objections to a call on the contributors, and the list presented by the official manager, Mr. Hutton, has now been fully settled. The call was very strongly opposed by the defaulting allottee class; and in consideration of the many appeals now pending against the Master's finding, and the probability of their being ultimately carried to the House of Lords, it was decided that the operation of this call is to be suspended as respected the defaulting class, and fixed peremptorily for the 10th of September next as respected the remaining classes.

WISBECH, Peterborough, and Birmingham.—On Tuesday, Master Dowdeswell proceeded with the settlement of the affairs of this company, an arrangement having been effected by Mr. Goodchap, the official manager, with the solicitor of the undertaking for the production of the books and papers. The first list contained the names of 52 members of the provisional committee, and it was partially settled on the production of evidence of consents to act, attending meetings, and taking shares. The petitioner for the winding-up states that he has been sued by the Commercial Bank, and compelled to pay considerable sums on behalf of the company, that actions are now pending against him, and that the liabilities to be ascertained by the official manager are considerable.

OXFORD AND WORCESTER EXTENSION AND CHESTER JUNCTION.—The amount of call that will be required from the contributors in this company to liquidate liabilities is estimated at about 3s. per share. Master Sir George Rose has fixed upon the list as liable all those parties who paid the deposit, but has released all those who did not, as the letters of allotment stipulated that if the deposit were not paid by a certain date, the contract was to be null and void. The directors' record concerning the contemplated distribution of the shares is a curious document. On beginning the business, the managing committee resolved on retaining 500 shares each for themselves, and 250 a piece for the provisional committee, but the panic supervening, they, of course, were not taken, and some 30,000 out of the 70,000 shares were held back.

TRING, READING, AND BASINGSTOKE.—The dividend of 10s. per share, out of the assets realized in the winding-up of this company, has been paid off, and the declaration of a further dividend will depend upon the recovery of a sum of 6300*£*. advanced to sharebrokers of the company, and of 2500*£*. advanced to a company called the Great Western Extension Railway.

OXFORD AND SALISBURY DIRECT.—A petition for the winding-up of this company was presented to the Lord Chancellor, on Tuesday, by Robert De Neuville Lucas, Esq., Southgate-road, Islington; and it is expected it will be heard before Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce on the 8th inst.

An order absolute has been made for the winding-up of the Jamaica Southern Railway, and petitions have been presented for the same purpose in the case of the Barbadoes General Railway, originally intended to connect all the towns and estates in that island, and which is understood to have been incorporated by an Act of the Colonial Legislature. Should this be the case, the latter company can scarcely be dealt with under the Joint-Stock Companies' Winding-up Act, which only takes cognizance of unincorporated railway companies.

DOVER, DEAL, AND CINQUE PORTS.—On Monday, Master Brougham proceeded with the settlement of the affairs of this company. The report of Mr. Croydell, the official manager, sets forth that there were 47 provisional committee; that out of the 90,000 shares only 9000, owing to the panic, were allotted and the deposit paid. The directors were about to abandon the undertaking, but negotiations with the South-Eastern Railway Company resulted in an undertaking from that company to defray the expenses incurred. The South-Eastern company subsequently repudiated their guarantee, but a verdict has since been obtained against the chairman for 8685*£*, and the money, which has been paid into court, will come in as assets to the estate. The directors, on the throwing out of the bill, returned 1*l.* out of the two guineas deposited, and would have been enabled to pay off 3555*£*. due to creditors, and the balance of return of deposit still due, to the amount of 6463*£*, to the shareholders, had they received the 8685*£*. owing by the South-Eastern Company, and with 1384*£*. still standing in the Commercial Bank to the credit of the committee. On this state of facts his Honour settled the lists, which were three in number, and the shareholders included in which who signed the deed and paid the deposit will, it is calculated, receive a dividend of 1*l.* per share.

UNIVERSAL GAS-LIGHT COMPANY.—Master Sir George Rose has appointed Mr. P. H. Harding, of Gresham-street, the official manager of this company.

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little good had been effected under the Winding-up Act, but a great deal of harm. It was high time to protect the subjects of this country from such proceedings, and he should refuse the petition, with costs.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER SAW MILLS AND TIMBER COMPANY.—On Thursday, Master Senior held a meeting, to make a call of 9d. per share on the shareholders in this company, but its payment was postponed until November, to enable Mr. Souby, the official manager, to make some arrangement, if possible, with respect to land purchased by the company.

NEPTUNE MARINE INSURANCE.—A petition for the winding-up of this company was presented to the Lord Chancellor, on Tuesday, by David Robinson and Mary Robinson; and it is expected it will be heard before Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce on the 8th inst.

TONTINE LIFE ASSURANCE.—The liabilities of this concern, independent of the expenses consequent on winding it up, are estimated by the official manager at about £2000. In making a call to defray these liabilities, respect will be had to those who paid and those who did not.

NATIONAL DISINFECTED MANURE COMPANY.—On Tuesday, Master Farmer proceeded with the settlement of the affairs of this company, which was started to collect the refuse of London, and the various towns and cities in the kingdom, and to convert it by a chemical process into manure for land, to be sold to farmers. The capital was to be £200,000. Operations were commenced in 1848, but discontinued in 1849. A deposit of 1s. per share was paid by the shareholders on a large number of shares, but as successive calls of 5s. and 15s. were not responded to, the concern became embarrassed, and the person who possessed the secret of "disinfecting" suddenly left the undertaking. The petitioners state that the directors spent £2232 in the experiment, that the liabilities amount to £1432, and the assets to about £4000. A judgment has been entered against the company for £1517.

ROYAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA.—On Wednesday, a meeting was held before Master Richards, for the further settlement of the list of contributors. Mr. Mark Boyd, and Mr. Rae, late manager of the bank, were examined, and the evidence of the former went to show that he purchased shares in the bank, and put them in the name of his brother, Mr. Benjamin Boyd, but that it was done without the knowledge or consent of the latter, who was at the time understood to be conducting the agency of the bank at Sydney. He had also done the same for some of his relations, and the question to be decided is whether these parties are to be held liable in respect of these shares. In the case where an original shareholder transferred shares to his nephew, a youth of 18, and who sought to be excused on the ground of minority, his Honour decided, that whatever his opinion of the transaction might be, he must in law hold that the transfer was invalid. The claims, as reported by Mr. Wryghte, the official manager, up to the present time on the estate amount to £350,000, of which £10,000 consist of deposit notes, principally held in Scotland. It is intended to contest the liability of the shareholders to meet these on the ground that the directors under the deed had no power to issue them. Should it be held that the bank is liable, the liquidation of them will fall heavily on the shareholders, who do not amount to more than 200. There are in addition calls unpaid made by the company, and yet to be got in under the Act, to the extent of £50,000, and the only assets in hand consist of property in Australia, estimated at £60,000. The other liabilities are not yet assessed, and the manager of the company's affairs at Sydney, to whom between £80,000 and £100,000, was entrusted, has left Sydney for California.

WHEAL CONCORD.—The proceedings for the winding-up of this company were commenced yesterday (Friday), before Master Sir William Horne. The petitioner is Mr. J. D. Lee, of Leadenhall-street, City, who stated that the company was formed in March, 1845, which was to consist of 1024 shares, to be carried on the cost-book system, and that Mr. Snell should be the purser of the company. Petitioner held 32 shares in the company, and paid upon them two sums, amounting respectively to 190d. and 80d. That after the formation of the company several meetings were held, and resolutions adopted, to the effect that the company could not be carried on; till, in July, 1847, the whole property of the company was seized, and sold under an execution; and the petitioner was in daily expectation of being sued for debts and liabilities of the company. Then followed the official manager's report, which stated that the purser had an account against the company to the amount of £1000, of which 600d. was due to himself; that the directors had received over £9000, all of which they had expended; that the liabilities of the company amounted to about £1900, and the arrears of calls, due to April, 1847, from 70 shareholders, was £900. The first and only case heard yesterday was that of Mr. William Rawlings, whom the official manager sought to have placed on the list as contributory for 8 shares.—Counsel for Mr. Rawlings contended that he could be held liable for only 4 shares, inasmuch as he had transferred 4 shares to another party.—The purser produced the company's books, to show that Mr. Rawlings had paid a call of 10s. per share on eight shares, and that thereby he had admitted his liability; and that when Mr. Rawlings had sent notice to him (the purser) that he had transferred the shares, the purser refused to notice it, because the transfer was at that time in arrear of calls. Two letters, addressed to Mr. Rawlings by the purser, were then produced, in order to show that he was not considered liable for more than four shares. In each of these letters the application was for payment of arrears on four shares only, and threatening law proceedings in the event of the application not being attended to.—The Master said, he could not, with such strong facts before him, think of placing this party on the list as a contributory for more than four shares.—Mr. Souby (the official manager) produced the books of the company, showing the payment by Mr. Rawlings of calls upon eight shares, and then called the Master's attention to the late judgment by the law commissioners of the Court of Chancery, in which their lordships held that unless a transfer had taken care to make a transfer complete the transfer, the transfer would still be liable. That was the state of facts in this case; the purser refused the transfer, as the transfer was in arrear of calls, and, therefore, was liable to the whole of the eight shares.—After a very warm and protracted discussion, the Master said, he would adjourn the case for further evidence.

GODOLPHIN MINING COMPANY.—A peremptory order has been issued by Sir George Rose for the payment of a call of 4d. per share by the contributors.

NORTHERN COAL MINING COMPANY.—The case against Mr. Bagge, M.P., was closed on Monday, by the official manager, who has obtained a peremptory order from the Master for enforcing the call of 10s. per share on the contributors, to pay the 100,000d. of debts. It is proposed to give time for payment until the 15th inst.

DIRECT LONDON AND MANCHESTER.—Yesterday, Master Senior made a call on 10 of the managing directors, who had agreed to take 200 shares each. The call was 2d. per share, amounting to 400d., or 4000d. in all. Mr. Plews opposed the call, but was overruled; and the time of payment fixed is December.

IRISH WEST COAST.—Yesterday, Master Turner was engaged in settling this company's affairs. The first list contained the names of 85 provisional committee-men, and the second about 900 allottees.

WINDING-UP OF RAILWAYS, AND THE INSOLVENT COURT.—An important question, arising out of the operation of the Joint-Stock Companies' Winding-up Act in respect of calls, is to be raised, as to whether the Insolvent Court may not afford an escape for persons affected, or about to be affected, by the enforcement of calls to pay off debts. The Act itself does not appear to provide against the possibility of this, though it declares that "no insolvent is entitled to petition" for a company's winding-up, and the question would further have to be determined whether the commissioners of the Insolvent Court in their jurisdiction would give the applicants their discharge. It is understood there are parties under arrest for calls who intend to try the question.

INSPECTION OF COAL MINES BILL.—In the House of Commons, last night, Sir G. Grey moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to prevent the numerous accidents which had recently occurred in coal mines. The bill had come down from the Lords, where it had passed without opposition.—Mr. Disraeli thought the bill a hasty and precipitate piece of legislation on a very important subject. It was a mistake to suppose that it was regarded with favour by all the important owners of mines and collieries. The very reverse was the fact. He had himself received representations from many persons who were connected with the mining interests, representing that the bill would operate most injuriously for them.—Mr. Hutt should like to know who the coalowners were who had represented to the hon. Member for Buckinghamshire that this bill would be injurious to their establishments? All he could say was that the coalowners in two of the most important counties in England took a very different view of it.—Mr. Wyld said that 2000 people perished annually in coal mines owing to bad ventilation, and that the coal miners, and at least two-thirds of the coalowners of England, had expressed themselves in favour of the measure. He called for the same protection to be extended to coal miners which was already extended to factory operatives.

—After a few words from Mr. Headlam, Mr. Wawn said the coalowners of Newcastle were opposed to the bill.—Mr. Sandars supported the bill.—Mr. Locke thought it impossible to legislate upon this subject, and that it was unfair to place the issue upon the numbers whose lives were annually lost. He had no objection to the passing of the bill, thinking it a little objectionable as a measure of the kind could well be.—Mr. Forster believed, that in nine cases out of ten the fatal accidents which occurred were attributable to the men themselves, and not to the coal-owners.—The bill was then read a second time.

CONTRACT FOR COALS.—The Lords of the Admiralty will be ready on Tuesday, the 20th inst., to receive tenders for supplying Welsh coals for the use of the steam navy.—Sierra Leone, 1800 tons; Loando, 1500 tons.

The committee of the India House, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., will receive tenders for supplying the company with the best plate-iron.

THAMES TUNNEL COMPANY.

The number of passengers who passed through the Tunnel in the week ending July 27 was—No. of passengers, 14,585.—Amount of money, £60 15s. 8d.

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Mr. Nesbit's works on Land Surveying, Mensuration, Gauging, Arithmetic, English Parsing, &c., may be had of all booksellers.

References.—Dr. D. B. Reid, F.R.S.E., &c., House of Commons, Westminster; R. Professor, C.E., Birmingham; J. L. Bullock, Esq., Editor of *Fresenius's Chemical Analysis*; Conduit-street, Regent-street; J. Gardner, Esq., M.D., Editor of *Liebig's Letters*, &c., Mortimer-street, Portland-place; and W. Shaw, Esq., Strand, London.

Will be published the second week in August, price 12s. 6d.

THE COMMERCIAL HAND-BOOK-OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS, being Practical Instructions for the determination of the Intrinsic or Commercial Value of Substances used in Manufactures in Trades and in the Arts.

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THE JOURNAL OF GAS LIGHTING, published on the 10th of every month, is the only periodical devoted exclusively to the subject of ARTIFICIAL LIGHT. The Number for July contained Dr. Fyfe's Report on Resin and Water Gas, together with an authentic report of the proceedings on the Great Central Gas Consumers' Bill, and other important articles. The one for August will contain the official Report on Palme's Process for Producing Gas from the Decomposition of Water by G. Hebert, 88, Cheapside, London.

SEWERAGE OF LONDON.—THE ATTENTION of the COMMISSIONERS appointed to determine upon the MOST EFFICIENT MATERIAL for the CONSTRUCTION of the SEWERS OF LONDON, is particularly directed to the ASPHALTE of SEYSSEL, which more than any other material is applicable to the CONSTRUCTING and INTERNAL COATING of BRICK CULVERTS and OTHER CHANNELS for DRAINAGE.

The experiments made by the Royal Artillery on the embankments of Plymouth Citadel, constructed of Seyssel Asphaltic Brickwork, under the orders of the Hon. Board of Ordnance, have fully proved the superiority, adhesiveness, and strength of Seyssel Asphaltic over all other conventional compositions. A printed account of these experiments can be had on application to

i. FARRELL, Secretary,

Note.—The application of the Asphaltic of Seyssel is specially recommended by the Commissioners on the Fine Arts for covering the ground line of brickwork in marshy situations, and it has been suggested that it would be peculiarly applicable for covering the areas of closed grave yards, and for the construction of catacombs.

EASTERN UNION RAILWAY COMPANY.—At a Special Meeting of shareholders, held at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, on Friday, the 2d of August, 1850.

SAMUEL BIGNOLD, Esq., in the chair,

It was resolved unanimously,

1. That it is the opinion of this meeting that the whole sum which this company may have borrowed, or may have power to borrow on mortgage or bond, should as soon as possible be permanently reduced, so that the total amount of mortgage debt outstanding may not exceed £350,000.

2. That the directors, for the purpose of giving effect to the preceding resolution, be authorized to create, under the powers of an Act obtained in the present session of Parliament, "Eastern Union Debenture Shares," and to raise thereto from time to time as may be required, and pay into the Bank of England, or into such other bank as may be determined upon, in conformity with the Act, a sum not exceeding £265,000, being about one-half of the present borrowed money.

3. That the shares be of an amount not exceeding £10 each share, and that the amount, and time of the deposit, and of calls thereon, be fixed by the directors, so that each payment be entitled to a rate of interest from the date thereof, not exceeding 4 per cent. if issued in perpetuity, or 5 per cent. if redeemable within 14 years, and that the directors be at liberty to issue the shares, under which ever of these conditions they may deem most advantageous to the credit and interest of the company.

4. That every holder of a mortgage or bond now due, or to become due on or before January 1st, 1851, be offered payment of it in the proportion of one-half its amount by "Debenture Shares," and one-half in a new mortgage, and that all bondholders be invited by circular to inform the directors, prior to the 30th September next, of their intentions with reference to the liquidation or renewal of such mortgages or bonds, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made prior to the 31st December, 1850, for paying off bondholders who may dissent therefrom.

JAMES F. SAUNDERS, Sec.

BICKFORD'S PATENT SAFETY FUSE.—The Patentees of the ORIGINAL, and only real, SAFETY FUSE, beg to inform Merchants, Mine Agents, Railway Contractors, and all persons concerned in Blasting Operations, that for the purpose of protecting the public in the use of a genuine article, the PATENT SAFETY FUSE has now a thread wrought into its centre, which being patent right, infallibly distinguishes it from all imitations, and ensures the continuity of the gunpowder. The Safety Fuse is now protected by a Second Patent, and manufactured by greatly improved machinery.

BICKFORD, SMITH, & DAVEY, Camborne, Cornwall.

New Patents.

LIST OF PATENTS GRANTED DURING THE PAST WEEK.

R. Hebbanner, of Regent-street, Middlesex, for improvements in preventing the external air and dust, and noise, from entering apartments.

Thomas Dickason Rotch, Esq., W.B., Drumlanford House, Ayr, for an improved mode of manufacturing soap.

M. Trattie, of Rochester, Kent, tool maker, for certain improvements in saw-sets, mallets, and other tools, and in apparatus and machinery for manufacturing the same.

J. S. Gaskin, jun., of the Island of Barbadoes, in the West Indies, for improvements in the manufacture of rum. To extend to the colonies only.

R. A. Broome, of the firm of J. C. Robertson and Co., of 165, Fleet-street, London, patent agent, for an improvement or improvements in abdominal supporters.

J. White, of Holborn, Middlesex, mill maker, for improvements in machinery for bruising, crushing, and for expressing juice from certain vegetable substances.

H. Besemer, of Baxter-House, St. Pancras-road, Middlesex, engineer, for certain improvements in apparatus acting by centrifugal force, in the manufacture of sugar, and other improvements in the treatment of saccharine matters by such apparatus.

J. N. Adorno, of Golden-square, Middlesex, for improvements in manufacturing cigars and other similar articles.

H. Rishton, of Kendal, Westmorland, plumber, for certain improvements in water closets and urinals.

J. P. Pirson, civil engineer, New York, America, for certain improvements in steam machinery and apparatus connected therewith.

J. Hyman, of Princes-square, Finsbury, Middlesex, chemical light manufacturer, for improvements in machinery for placing splints of wood, and wax, and composition tapers, in frames for dipping.

P. Fairbairn, of Leeds, York, mechanist, and J. Hetherington, of Manchester, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for preparing, spinning, and weaving cotton, flax, and other fibrous substances; also in constructing and applying models or patterns for moulding, preparatory to casting parts of machinery employed in preparing, spinning, and manufacturing fibrous substances; and also in certain tools to be used in making such machinery.

M. Gray, of Morris-place, Glasgow, practical engineer, for an improved method of supplying steam-boilers with water.

E. G. Leroy, of Paris, France, for certain improvements in locomotive engines, and in the means and apparatus to be employed for generating and condensing the steam to be used therein.

DESIGNS FOR ARTICLES OF UTILITY REGISTERED.

J. Wright, Sheffield, tempering and straightening plates.

A. Campbell, Tottenham-court-road, Argyll-bouquet-holder and watch protector.

S. Perkes, Birkenhead, metallic folding bedstead.

G. Boulton, Great Dover-street, Southwark, crosha (or crochet) and tambour hook.

H. Broadhead, Leeds, flat whitening brush.

J. Mackenzie, Bideford, Devon, "the Cheirothenecon," an instrument calculated to give strength and flexibility to the fingers, and to communicate the equality of touch, so essential to correct and brilliant execution on the pianoforte.

J. Thornton and Sons, Birmingham, signal lamp.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

COAL MARKET, LONDON.

PRICE OF COALS PER TON AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

MONDAY.—Buddle's West Hartley 14 3—Begbie's Hartley 13 9—Chester Main 13—Davison's West Hartley 14 3—Hastings Hartley 14 3—Holywell 13 6—Ord's Main 13—Ravensworth West Hartley 13 9—Taunfeld Moor 13 3—Taunfeld Moor Butes 12—West Hartley 14 3—Wylam 13 3—Wall's End Acorn Close 14—Bewicks and Co. 14 3—Benham 13 3—Elm Park 13 9—Harton 14—Hedley 14—Hilda 13 6—Morrison 14—Northumberland 13 6—Original Gibson 13 6—Riddell 13 9—Walker 13 6—Eden Main 14 6—Russell's Hetton 15 6—Scarborough 14 3—Stewart's 16 6—Whitwell 14—Caradoc 14 9—Denison 14—Hough Hall 14 6—Hartlepoo 16—Kelloe 15 3—South Hartlepoo 14 6 to 14 9—South Kelles 14 6—Thornley 14 9—Whitworth 13 3—Adelaide Tees 15 6—Maclean's Tees 13 6—Seymour Tees 14—South Durham 14—Tees 16—West Peas 13—Derwentwater Hartley 14 3—Gwen Cae Gurwan Stone 24—Hartley 13 9—Howard's West Hartley Netherton 14 3—Llangollen 20—Sidney's Hartley 14 3—Ships, 232; sold, 158.

WEDNESDAY.—Buddle's West Hartley 14 3—Begbie's Hartley 13 9—Chester Main 13—Davison's West Hartley 14 3—Hastings Hartley 14 3—Holywell 13 6—Taunfeld Moor 13—Taunfeld Moor Butes 13—Walker Primrose 13—West Hartley 14 3—Wylam 13 6—Wall's End Acorn Close 14—Bewicks and Co. 14 3—Gosforth 14—Harton 14—Walker 13 6—Eden Main 14 6—Bell 14 6—Belmont 14 9—Brady's 14 9—Hilton 16—Hawsett 16 3—Kepler Grange 15 3—Lambton 15 6—Russell's Hetton 15 6—Scarborough 14 3—Stewart's 16—Bentley 14 3—Denison 14—Hartlepoo 16—Kelloe 15 3—South Kelles 14 6—Whitworth 13—Adelaide Tees 15 6—Brown's Deansbury 14—Maclean's Tees 15 6—Howards West Hartley Netherton 14 3—Tees 16—Cowper Hartley 14 3—Hartley 13 9—Howard's West Hartley Netherton 14 3—Nixon